

OSTENDORF LLOYD

DRAWER 19A

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# Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Lloyd Ostendorf

Excerpts from newspapers and other  
sources

From the files of the  
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



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State of Indiana through the Indiana State Library

<http://archive.org/details/artistsofabraolinc>







# The Lincoln Art Exhibit

*by Lloyd Ostendorf*



Lincoln Memorial University

Harrogate, Tennessee

JUNE 6, 7, 8, 1969

COVER: Abraham Lincoln poses in the St. Nicholas Hotel in Springfield, Illinois, for Sculptor Thomas D. Jones of Cincinnati. Jones modeled the President-Elect from late December, 1860 to February, 1861. Drawing by Lloyd Ostendorf.

The Lincoln Art Exhibit is by Dr. Lloyd Ostendorf, renowned illustrator, portrait painter, free lance artist, and author from Dayton, Ohio. His original works of art on exhibit here include oil portraits, pastels, water-color and wash and ink illustrations.

A highlight of the Exhibit is the showing of twenty-two framed paintings and drawings of Lincoln and a display of the twenty-six known photographs of Mary Todd Lincoln. These are mounted enlargements of all her pictures which were printed in Ostendorf's most recent book, **The Photographs of Mary Todd Lincoln**, from the Illinois Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois. This will be the first public exhibition of all the known photographs of Mrs. Mary Todd Lincoln.

A recognized authority on Lincoln and the Lincoln era, Ostendorf also offers a variety of illustrated talks entitled, **The Magnetism of Lincoln, Lincoln's Brand of Humor, Home Life with the Lincolns, Assassination Attempts, Lincoln's Visit to Dayton, Lincoln's Youth, Lincoln-Kennedy Parallels, and The Face of Lincoln.**

In 1963, Ostendorf and Charles Hamilton published **Lincoln in Photographs, an Album of Every Known Pose.** In addition, he is the author of two other books, **Mr. Lincoln Came to Dayton**, and **A Picture Story of Abraham Lincoln.** He has also illustrated more than a score of books, school texts, readers, histories, biographies, and educational periodicals. Among them is Adin Baber's **Lincoln with Compass and Chain**, and **Lincoln's Lost Speech.**

Dr. Ostendorf was twice president of the Dayton, Ohio, Civil War Round Table and has spoken to other Round Tables. Since 1957, he has been art editor of the **Lincoln Herald**, a publication of the Lincoln Memorial University Press. He is a member of numerous historical and art societies and has been an officer of some.

He was an honorary member of the national Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission (1959) and is a fellow in the Royal Society of Arts, London. Awards include the George Washington Honor Medal from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge and the 1966 Lincoln Diploma of Honor from Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, Tennessee.

In 1958, Dr. Ostendorf was national award winner in a contest for design of the Chicago Lincoln statue at Lincoln, Lawrence and Western Avenues. From photographs in his private collection he writes a feature "Faces Lincoln Knew" for the **Lincoln Herald**. Pictures from his large Civil War collection appear in the American Heritage "Picture History of the Civil War."

## Acknowledgments

Dr. Wayne Temple for the gracious loan of Ostendorf works from his personal collection.

Mrs. Richard McDermot, chairman of the Reception for Dr. and Mrs. Ostendorf.

Dr. Mary Lu and Miss Alice Petermann, hostesses at the reception.

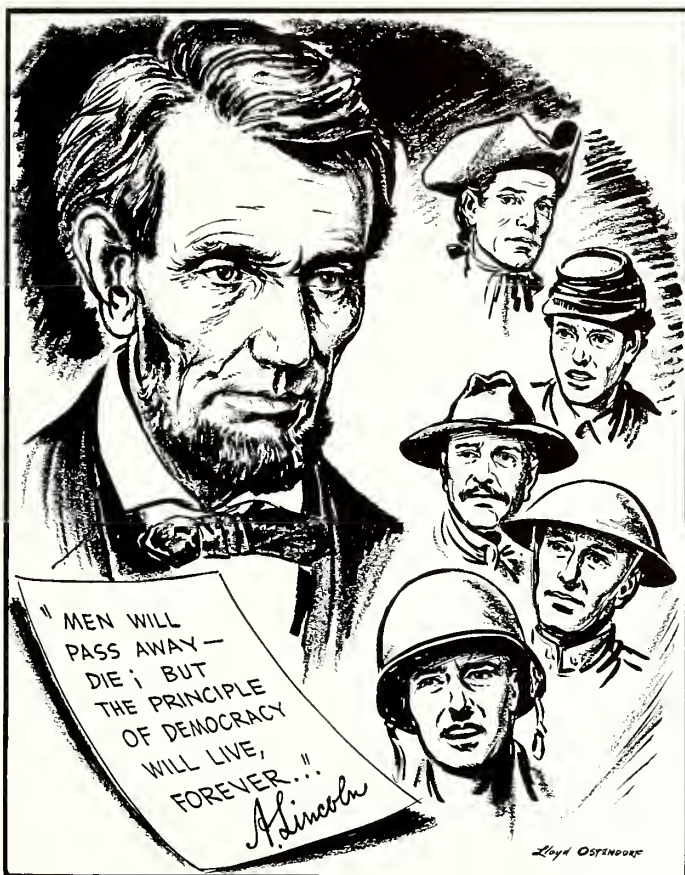
Mr. Stuart Watson, Publicity.

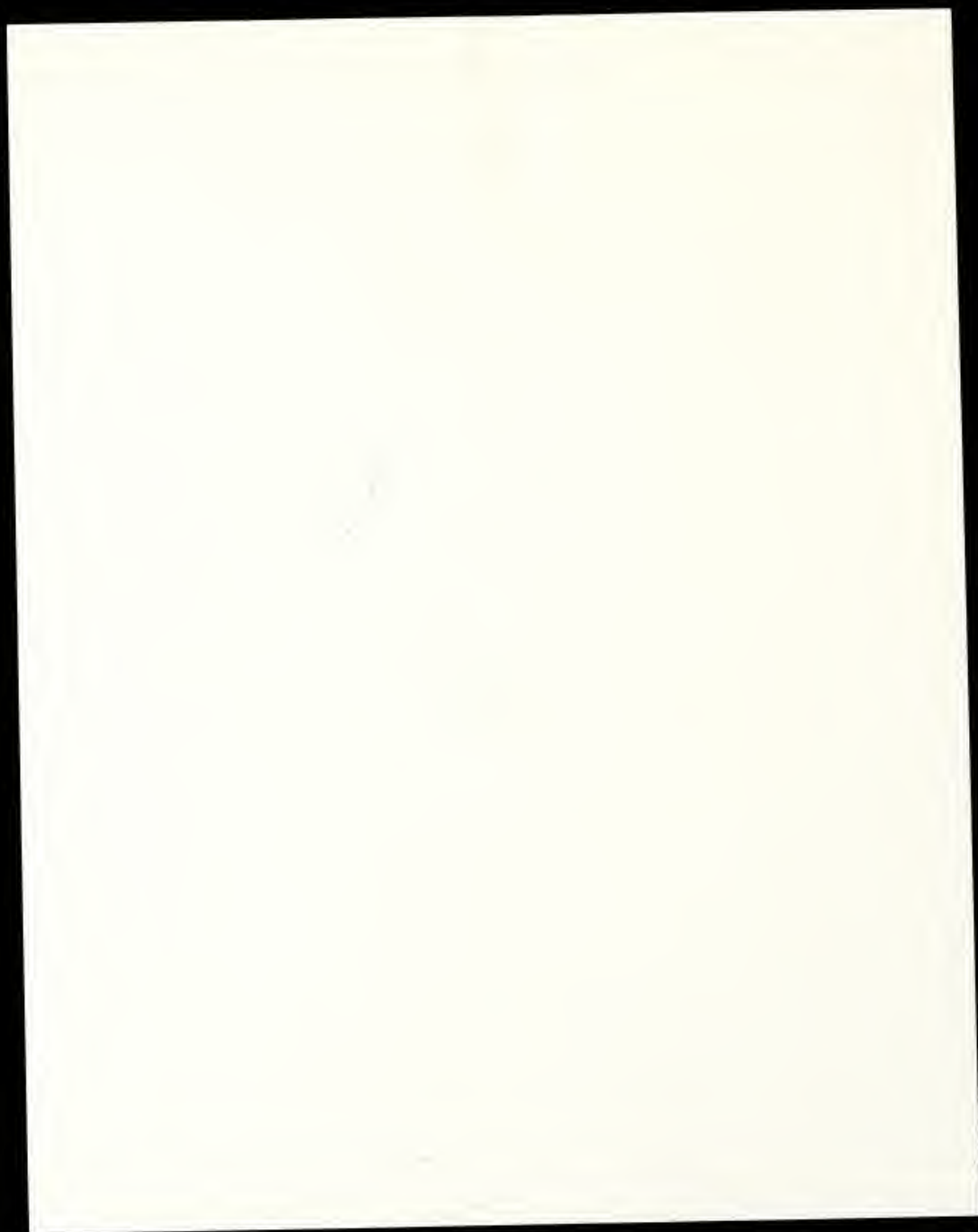
Mrs. Charles West, chairman of the Ostendorf Lincoln Art Exhibit.









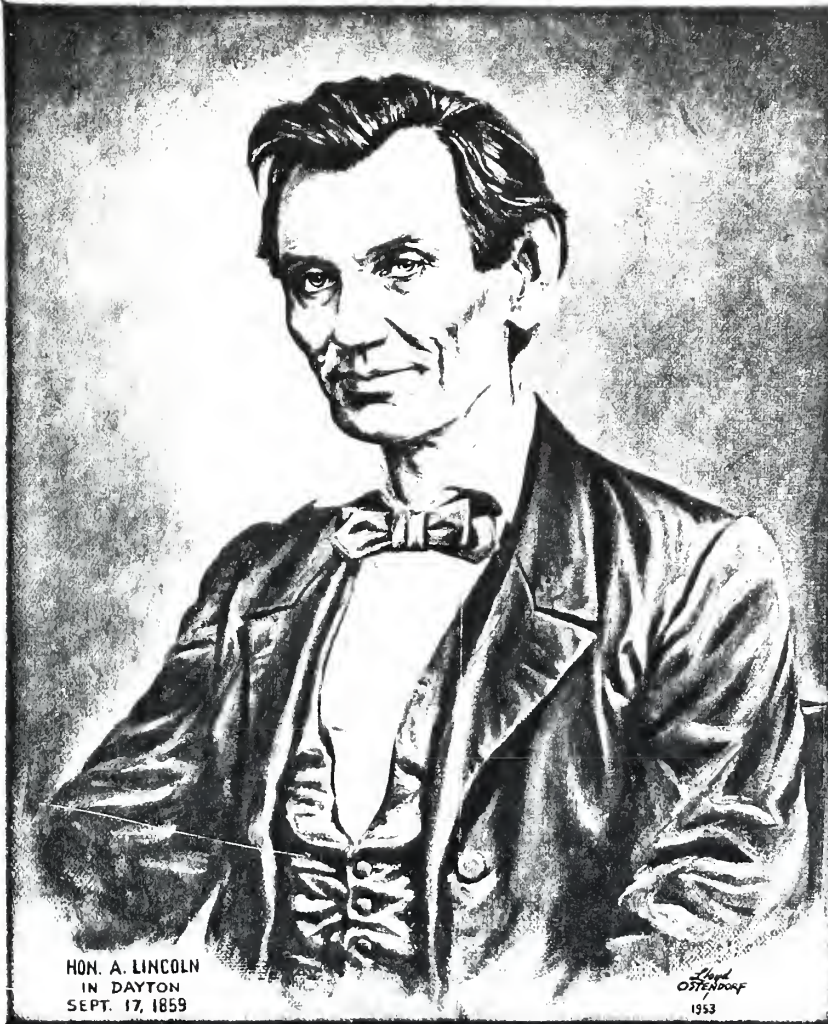


"The Angry Lincoln" drawn by Lloyd Ostendorf









HON. A. LINCOLN  
IN DAYTON  
SEPT. 17, 1859

Lloyd  
OSTENDORF  
1953





(original in safe)







(original in safe)



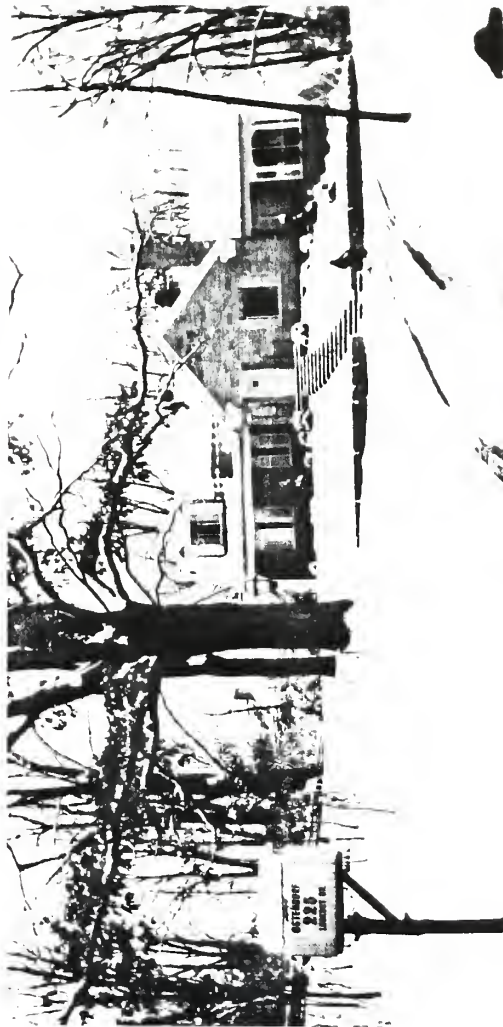


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## At 15 Lloyd Has Been Drawing 12 Years



R. LLOYD OSTENDORF

## Drawing a Day for Years, Is Record of Dayton Student

A drawing a day, since he was springs from a family just a boy, is the record made by many have made like manner over  
**A** Lloyd Ostendorf, 15-year-old Stivers high school sophomore, who has a mad desire for doing portraits of Abraham Lincoln and shown herewith surrounded by many of the pieces of his Lincoln collection.

It is many pens and pencils that Lloyd has worn out creating these studies of the martyred president, for this chap began wielding drawing sticks when but three years old. That he should turn to this type of work is not unusual, for he





June 18, 1937

Louis A. Warren  
Director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation.  
Ft. Wayne , Ind.

Dear Mr. Warren :

Having read your interesting articles about collecting pictures of Lincoln, I am writing you this letter. I never realized what a nation wide hobby LINCOLNIANA was until I got hold of the February issue of the magazine.

I am an ardent student of LINCOLNIANA, and am always interested in any activities connected with Lincoln. I take great pleasure in assembling and mounting my pictures of Lincoln, his family , homes , and many of the passing Civil War veterans.

Most all my pictures are, however, from news papers and magazines.

My greatest desire is to become the greatest Lincoln artist since Douglas Volk, who died last year in Feb. 1936 when I began my Lincoln work.

Please send me the pictures you offered in the HOBBY magazine. Stamps are enclosed.

P.S. ENCLOSED IS WHAT WAS PUT IN  
THE PAPER ABOUT MY WORK WHICH MAY  
BE OF INTEREST TO YOU.

Sincerely,  
A. Lloyd Astendorf  
1060 GRAND AV.  
DAYTON, OHIO



## Portrait Artist Likes His Lincoln

The greatest living portrait-ist of Lincoln.

That's what A. Lloyd Ostendorf, jr., 15, would like to become. His family is artistic. His own pictures have won exhibitions, and he is employed by a Dayton, Ohio, newspaper, as illustrator.

"Since I was 3 I have averaged a drawing a day," Lloyd writes from 1060 Grand avenue, Dayton. "I hope this experience will help me as a cartoonist or commercial illustrator.

"But I have a mad desire to be a noted Lincoln artist."

**Newsfacts**—A touch of "Lincoln fever" leaves a permanent hobby. For 10 years Donald Turney, 18, of Decatur, Ill., has collected Lincoln material, once bicycled east to Washington, D. C., to visit shrines en route. • • Since Lincoln was shot no plays have been given at Ford's Theater in Washington, D. C. It is a Lincoln Museum.



A. Lloyd Ostendorf, jr.—With a Few of His Lincoln Sketches.

The boy & son Press (wis) apue 10 '37.



June 21, 1937

A. Lloyd Osterdorf  
1060 Grand Avenue  
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Mr. Osterdorf:

In Dr. Warren's absence from the city  
I will try to answer your letter of the 14th.

Under separate cover we are sending  
you the packet of pictures which you requested  
and we hope they will be of interest to you.

I am sure Dr. Warren will agree with  
me that you have set yourself a high and worthy  
ambition and may you be successful.

Yours very truly,

Secretary to Dr. Warren



July 14, 1937

Mr. A. Lloyd Ostendorf  
1060 Grand Ave.  
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Mr. Ostendorf:

During my absence your letter of June 18 arrived and you may be assured we are greatly interested in your work especially, of course, your interest in Lincoln.

HL  
7/14/37  
I am taking occasion to send you with my compliments ~~our~~ 2560 reproductions of original photographs which you may wish to have for your collection. We are also placing your name on our mailing list for Lincoln Lore, a weekly publication which we issue and which I think you will enjoy receiving. This is also sent with our compliments.

If you feel we can assist you in any way by further contributions to your collection, we will be very happy to do so.

Very truly yours,

LAW:BS

Director





A. LLOYD OSTENDORF

LINCOLN ARTIST



July 18, 1937

Louis A. Warren, Litt. D.  
Lincoln National Life F.  
Fort Wayne, Ind.

My Dear Mr. Warren:

My words will not express the deep gratitude which I feel, and in appreciation for your sending me, the many fine photos of Lincoln, the Lincoln Lozes, and your kind letter, I am attempting to do a little favor for you.

I have a picture of yourself in my collection and copied it for the sketch I drew for, and of you.

It is just as I imagine you to be - "a thinker of thoughts about Lincoln," if you know what I mean.

Thanking you again for your sincere friendliness I am,  
Sincerely yours  
A. Lloyd Ostendorf.



July 21, 1937

Mr. A. Lloyd Ostendorf  
1060 Grand Avenue  
Dayton, Ohio

My dear Sir:

We are in receipt of the very interesting drawing which you have made, which I feel rather flatters me, but does justice to Lincoln, and I again find myself under obligation to you.

Under separate cover I am sending some more odds and ends which may be interesting, for your library.

We will watch with interest your development as an interpreter of Lincoln, and are quite sure you have a very promising future before you.

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB

Director





DAYTON BOY SPENDS LEISURE HOURS REPRODUCING LIKENESSES OF GREAT EMANCIPATO



Ostendorf

Dayton Kirby Moore  
(over)



IT MAY HAVE BEEN only a coincidence that Douglas Volk, famous Lincoln artist and illustrator, died during the same month—February, 1936—that 16-year-old Lloyd Ostendorf, 1060 Grand av., Shivers high school junior, became interested in Abraham Lincoln to the extent that he has made it his hobby, making sketches, masks and busts.

Although he is an ardent admirer of Lincoln, he has never visited the Lincoln Memorial at Springfield, Ill., but does plan to make a trip to the shrine in the near future.

Lloyd became interested in art work at the age of three and has studied arduously since that time, both in school and in his spare time. For the past 10 years he has attended the Saturday morning art classes at the Dayton Art Institute on scholarships.

This bust of Lincoln (above) required almost 30 hours, working after school and in his spare time. It is made of plaster of paris and is life-size.



TWO AND THREE layers of newspaper and wrapping paper, held together with ordinary library paste were used to form this life-like mask of the Great Emancipator. Note the sharpness of detail in this likeness. Lloyd cartoons for the Shivers News, depicting school activities. He later intends to take up commercial cartooning for a livelihood.



—PHOTOS BY CARL BOWERS

ALTHOUGH he has no idea of the number of sketches he has made of Lincoln since he began two years ago, Lloyd has about 50 which he considers his best work, and which he keeps for reference. The others have been discarded because of one flaw or another. Besides the drawings he has made a life-size paper bust of Lincoln, and one other plaster of paris bust. He began his drawing by making sketches from books and photographs, and has a collection of 150 reprint photographs and 28 small originals. Most of his work is done in pencil or ink. Sometime in the future he plans to make a life-size statue.



Lloyd Ostendorf

Free Lance  
COMMERCIAL ILLUSTRATOR

225 LOOKOUT DR. ART STUDIO  
~~H6 OGDEN DRIVE~~  
DAYTON, OHIO

Taylor 2583

June 30 1952

Dr. Louis A. Warren  
DIRECTOR Lincoln National Life  
Foundation  
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Dr. Warren:

It's been years since I've written you though I've thought about writing you many times... As a very interested reader of your "Lincoln Lore", I believe that what you have to say on the Lincoln subject is the "last word" and most reliable. For that reason I'm writing you. Perhaps, through your vast knowledge of Lincoln's activities you can verify a few "facts" which I am trying to clear up. These facts, so called are supposedly true here around Dayton, Ohio. I have succeed in exposing one of these legends that the enclosed newspaper accounts retell.

It was you who started me in the right direction with my Lincoln collection, when as a boy in my teen's you sent me some Lincoln photos etc. Today as a commercial





Lloyd Ostendorf

(2)

Free Lance  
COMMERCIAL ILLUSTRATORART STUDIO  
116 ODLIN DRIVE  
DAYTON 5, OHIO

Taylor 2583

Artist, I still find time to devote to my Lincoln hobby. Before I get too far in this letter let me say I'm sending enclosed a copy of my latest Lincoln oil painting. Painted with the aid of Lincoln photographs and in the "mood" of the old photographs to is not a copy of any particular one - but the result of about 17 years of drawing and painting Lincoln.

Now to get down to the business of the newspaper clippings. First, read the account of the Lincoln legends of clipping # ①, 2 and 3. You will get the idea what has happened around this section.

Now can you substantiate the history claim that Lincoln visited Dayton Ohio

on SEPTEMBER 17 1859. WHEN ON HIS WAY TO CINCINNATI, THAT HE and HIS WIFE STAYED AT THE PHILLIPS HOUSE, (HOTEL NOW GONE) AND GAVE A SPEECH FROM A STORE BOX in FRONT OF DAYTON'S OLD COURTHOUSE. (STILL at 3rd + MAIN) ST.

(THIS IS PRINTED IN THE HISTORY OF DAYTON and MONTGOMERY CO.  
VOL. I ILLUSTRATED. Pages 165-166.)



Lloyd Ostendorf

3

Free Lance  
COMMERCIAL ILLUSTRATOR

ART STUDIO  
116 ODLIN DRIVE  
DAYTON 5, OHIO

Taylor 2583

Any information you can give me to verify the about so called facts would be of great help.

The 2nd item I'm trying to run down if you read the account of Lincoln's Dayton visit; where are the DAYTON photo's of Lincoln? Have you ever heard of any unpublished photo's taken in Dayton and who might have copies?

There still may be more come to light about this Dayton Lincoln painting episode and if you're interested, I will try to keep you informed

Very Sincerely Yours

Lloyd Ostendorf











July 18, 1952

Mr. Lloyd Ostendorf  
225 Lookout Drive  
Dayton 9, Ohio

My dear Mr. Ostendorf:

We have known the story of the Nickum painting for many years and while we cannot question that the painting was made by Nickum, if so he was greatly assisted by a photograph of Lincoln made in New York in 1860.

Bryan in his book on Lincoln in Ohio does not support the supposition that Lincoln stayed at the Phillips House except possibly for a meal but apparently he was at Columbus on the night of September 16 and at Cincinnati on the night of September 17.

Very truly yours,

Director

L. A. Warren:JK

PS.

Thanks very much for the clipping and the excellent reproduction of the painting of Lincoln which you have achieved.

L.A.W.



DAYTON, OHIO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1954



### *"How Large Of Mould"*

*"FROM THIS mute witness understand what Lincoln was—how large of mould"—four score and nine years have passed, but Abraham Lincoln is still a pulsing force to Lloyd Ostendorf, 225 Lookout drive, a commercial artist. He has been collecting Lincolnia since 1934, is now finishing an oil painting from a life mask. He also drew the editorial page cartoon on Page 4. (Staff photo by Morris Fawcett)*

JOURNAL HERALD, DAYTON, OHIO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1954











# Lincoln Artist Honored

## Here to Receive Prize for Sketch

The winner of \$500 prize for a sketch of a new Chicago Lincoln statue has been drawing pictures of Abraham Lincoln since he was a boy.

The contest for a statue to be erected in Lincoln Square — Lincoln, Lawrence and Western — was sponsored by the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Commission of Illinois and the Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce.

The winner, Lloyd Ostendorf, 33, of Dayton, Ohio, estimated he has drawn and painted more than 1,000 studies of Lincoln and collected several filing cabinets of Lincoln pictures in the last 20 years.

FOR HIS PRIZE sketch, "The Chicago Lincoln," Ostendorf envisioned a beardless Lincoln as he had appeared to Chicagoans during the 10 years he visited here before his presidential nomination in 1860.

"Studying and drawing Lincoln always has been a sort of avocation with me, but my biggest thrill was to win an award like this, one which will contribute something to Chicago," he said.

Ostendorf was in the city Thursday to attend a luncheon in his honor in the restaurant at 4300 Lincoln.

HE WAS presented a plaque for his winning drawing by Leo Lerner, chairman of the Lincoln Memorial Commission, and Charles L. McPartlin, president of the Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce.

Lerner, community newspaper editor, said that Rep. William E. Pollock (R., Chicago), a member of the commission, will introduce an appropriation bill for the 14-foot statue during this session of the legislature.



LINCOLN ARTIST Lloyd Ostendorf (left), 33, of Dayton, Ohio, accepts plaque in recognition of his winning sketch for a new Lincoln statue here. Charles L. McPartlin, president of the Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce, makes the presentation. Ostendorf also received a \$500 prize.

1955





FREE LANCE ILLUSTRATOR

STUDIO • 225 LOOKOUT DRIVE  
DAYTON 9, OHIO • WA 9234

February 16 1955

Dr. Louis A Warren  
Director  
Lincoln National Life Foundation  
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Dr. Warren:

I take pleasure in sending along to you several Lincoln pieces published this month in local papers which I enjoyed working up recently.

The large cover photograph makes a handsome front page display and was taken from my small negative of your very fine enlargement at your Foundation. Credit for its use is gratefully given on page two.

The editorial cartoon is not too original an idea you will note, but feel that the idea is still good enough and big enough to "warm over " again at this time. My original title was " CO-EXISTENSE "... ?....but that was changed by the editor.

I plan to vist you later on to continue my study of Lincoln's photographs which is progressing quite well. Mr. Meserve was a great help to me on my visit to New York last December.

You may be interested to know that Mr. Meserve is seriously considering selling his whole collection as a unit, and offered it to me if I wanted to buy it. I told him I would like to buy it, but financially it was way out of my means. He has a far greater collection than I dreamed. He said I thought he should get 3 or 4 hundred thousand for it but did not wish to put it in the hands of a broker. He claimed he could use the money but would not split it up in order to sell.

And that's all the Lincoln news from here,  
Best Wishes,





February 17, 1955

Mr. Lloyd Ostendorf  
225 Lookout Drive  
Dayton, 9, Ohio

Dear Mr. Ostendorf:

We are delighted to receive your letter with its splendid enclosures and learn that you have again, this February, made such fine contributions to the perpetuation of the Lincoln story through your magazine articles, cartoons, etc.

As Dr. Warren is out of the office on his annual speaking itinerary at this time, I am holding your letter with its enclosure and will bring it to his attention upon his return.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Moellering  
Secretary to Dr. Warren

m/m

(original in safe)

PHOTOCOPY



March 24, 1955

Mr. Lloyd Ostendorf  
225 Lookout Drive  
Dayton 9, Ohio

My dear Mr. Ostendorf:

Just back after a long nine weeks itinerary I find your letter of February 16 and the enclosures on my desk. May I thank you especially for the many interesting items and also the photograph of the Lincoln signature on the letter recently discovered.

I liked your cartoon very much indeed and I think that the art work in Lincoln alone sets it apart from all the others in the contest. However, I guess the judges do give some other consideration beside the excellency of the drawing. I do hope, however, you may be successful in the enterprise as you was last year.

I have read with very great interest that you have received the prize for the statue to be erected at Chicago and I am happy to know that there is a prize of \$500.00 goes along with it. Congratulations on this last success.

Will be happy to have you come over any time that you find it convenient.

Very truly yours,

LAW:WC

Director



Lloyd  
 **OSTENDORF**  
FREE LANCE ILLUSTRATOR

STUDIO • 225 LOOKOUT DRIVE  
DAYTON 9, OHIO • WA 9234

May 17 1955

Dr. Louis A. Warren  
Director  
Lincoln National Life Found.  
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Dr. Warren:

Thank you for the data about my Lincoln letter. I enclose the newspaper story showing the photo of the last portion of the letter, closing phrase and signature... I will try to get appraisals on it. Off hand I value it between \$2500. and up to possibly \$ 5000. What's your unofficial opinion ?

Is it not the second longest letter Lincoln ever wrote ?  
The one to the Albany deligation being the longest.... ?

I am happy to enclose the original cartoon with my complements to you... Perhaps you can get a better reproduction from it.

Incidentally, I found an old book from the library of  
Clement L. Vallandigham, titled... " A Collection of the  
Speeches of the President of the United States "  
Printed in Boston July 1796

This title page bears the fancy signature of

*Levi Lincoln Pres. 1825*  
like so .....atop the title page....

Who is Levi Lincoln.....?

Thanks for the cartoon honors again this year...I am deeply grateful to your committee.

I remain as ever,

Very truly yours,

*Lloyd Ostendorf*  
Lloyd Ostendorf





May 27, 1955

Mr. Lloyd Ostendorf  
225 Lookout Drive  
Dayton 9, Ohio

My dear Mr. Ostendorf:

I do not think I would care to put an appraisal on the Lincoln manuscript which you have because I am not qualified to do so. I think some autograph dealer would give you an estimate but I doubt seriously whether it would bring as much money as \$5,000.00 because you have only a few words by Lincoln. However, I think it is a valuable document inasmuch as it is the original, the others available apparently having been copies.

The signature of Levi Lincoln which you have is a descendant of Samuel Lincoln, the progenitor of Abraham Lincoln, so they are of blood relationship. Levi, Jr.'s father was the attorney general in Thomas Jefferson's cabinet and he also was the governor of Massachusetts. Levi himself became governor of Massachusetts, that is, Levi, Jr. and also his brother Enoch became governor of the State of Maine. I think that the book would be well worth the keeping because of the signature in it although we do have several signatures of Levi Lincoln, Jr.

I am sorry I have delayed so long in getting the photographs off but the photographer that does our work is very difficult to get in touch with as he works nights at our offices across town but I expect the pictures are not pressing but we will get them to you just as soon as it is convenient.

Very truly yours,

LAW/JR

Director



## Beardless Lincoln Picked for Statue

### Ohioan Wins \$500 Prize

A beardless Abraham Lincoln—as he looked in 1860 when he campaigned in Chicago—has been picked as the best idea for a new Chicago Lincoln statue.

The statue will be placed in Lincoln Square—Lincoln, Lawrence and Western—under the supervision of the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Commission of Illinois.

The commission and the Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce offered \$1,000 in cash prizes for ideas for the statue.

\*\*\*  
**THE WINNING IDEA**, called "The Chicago Lincoln," was designed by Lloyd Ostendorf, Dayton, Ohio. He will receive the \$500 first prize.

The second prize of \$250 went to Raider E. Nelson, 2251 N. Spaulding, Chicago, and third prize to Avarad Fairbanks of the University of Utah, sculptor of the new Lincoln statue at New Salem, Ill.

Third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh prize winners were awarded \$50 each.

\*\*\*  
**THE WINNERS** were selected from hundreds of entries sent in from all over the United States.

Judges were Ralph Newman



**WINNING SKETCH** for statue of Abraham Lincoln as he looked in 1860, by Lloyd Ostendorf.

of the Abraham Lincoln Book Shop; Lloyd Miller, Lincoln collector and Civil War battle expert; Dr. Harry E. Pratt, director of the Illinois State Historical Library; Michael S. Lerner, member of the Civil War Round Table, and Harry Spellbrink, president of the Commercial National Bank of Chicago.







- 1 Reported from House June 16, 1953.
- 2 Read by title, ordered printed, and to a first reading.

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### A BILL

For an Act creating the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Commission, prescribing the powers and duties thereof and making an appropriation therefor.

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*Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:*

Section 1. There is created the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, to consist of three members, one to be appointed by the Governor, one to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and one to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments. The members shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The Commission shall select a chairman from its membership and provide rules for the transaction of its affairs.

Sec. 2. The Commission shall make a study of the triangular area in the city of Chicago bounded by Western Avenue, Lincoln Avenue and Lawrence Avenue, and shall select a recommended location within such triangular area

4 as a suitable place for the erection of a statue of Abraham Lincoln. The Com-  
5 mission shall study the various types of material from which such a statue can  
6 be fabricated, and shall select a recommended material, or combination of ma-  
7 terials, that it feels will be fitting for such a statue. The Commission shall  
8 select a recommended person to fabricate such a statue and shall ascertain  
9 the probable cost thereof. The Commission may confer with the proper offi-  
10 cials of the city of Chicago and receive their advice, as part of its studies under  
11 this Act.

Sec. 3. The Commission shall make a complete report of its activities, in-  
2 cluding its recommendations, to the Sixty-ninth General Assembly on or before  
3 March 1, 1955.

Sec. 4. The sum of \$1000.00, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is ap-  
2 propriated to the Commission to carry out the provisions of this Act.



# Sketch of Beardless Lincoln Is Winner

## New Lincoln Statue Planned in Chicago

By Joyce Thompson

Of The Herald and Review Staff

A photograph of a beardless Lincoln with a forelock he couldn't control was the inspiration for a sketch that won a \$500 prize for Lloyd Ostendorf, Dayton, Ohio.

The sketch, one of three submitted by Ostendorf, was chosen as the best idea for a new Lincoln statue to be placed in Lincoln Square, Chicago.

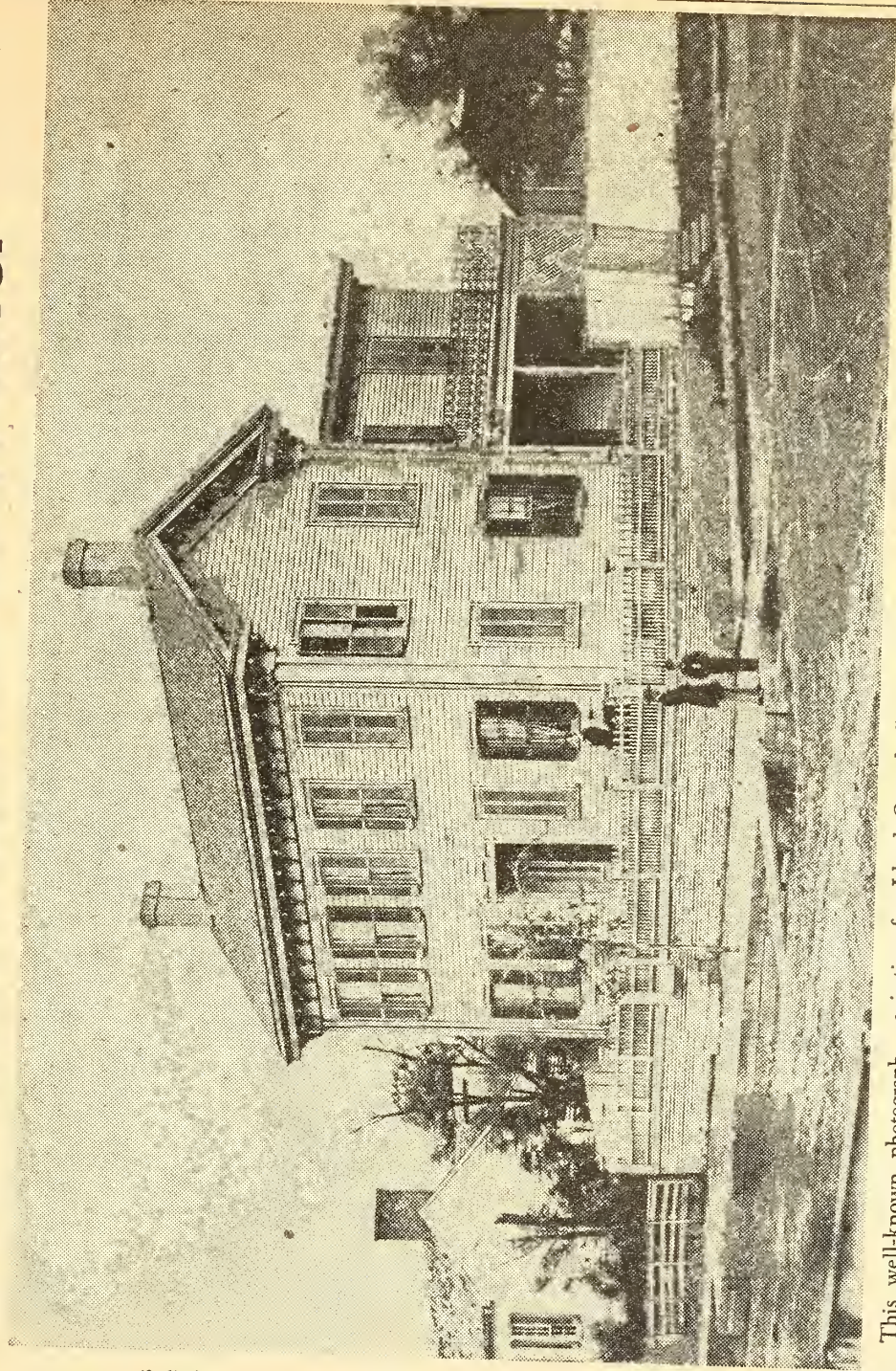
The statue will be erected under the supervision of the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Commission of Illinois which awarded \$1,000 in prizes for sketches.

Ostendorf got his idea for the sketch from a picture of the Civil War President taken in front of the Lincoln Springfield home in 1860 by A. J. Whipple of Boston.

The artist made a blow-up of the original and well-known photograph which shows Lincoln as a vigorous and erect figure.

"Unlike studio portraits, this informal one shows Lincoln's forelock of hair on his forehead as it probably lay most of the time on his beardless face", the artist said.

For placing in Chicago this



This well-known photograph of Abraham Lincoln taken in 1860 in Springfield by A. J. Whipple of Boston was the in-

spiration for Lloyd Ostendorf's winning sketch of the Civil War President. From Osten-

dorf's sketch, a statue of Lincoln will be fashioned to be put in Lincoln Square, Chicago.

Standing with Lincoln is Willie, his son. Other persons are unidentified.



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5 mission shall study the various types of material from which such a statue can  
6 be fabricated, and shall select a recommended material, or combination of ma-  
7 terials, that it feels will be fitting for such a statue. The Commission shall  
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2 propriated to the Commission to carry out the provisions of this Act.





probably was best, thought Ostendorf, since Lincoln appeared in that city many times from 1848 to 1860 without a beard. At the time of his last speech there in 1860, he wore only half a beard.

Two other sketches submitted by Ostendorf were of a smiling bearded Lincoln as he appeared when he was President and the other was of a youthful Lincoln seated with ax in one hand, book in the other and gazing into the distance.

The sketches, according to Ostendorf, were "a labor of love".

The Dayton, Ohio, free-lance artist paints and models portraits of Lincoln in his spare time and just for fun.

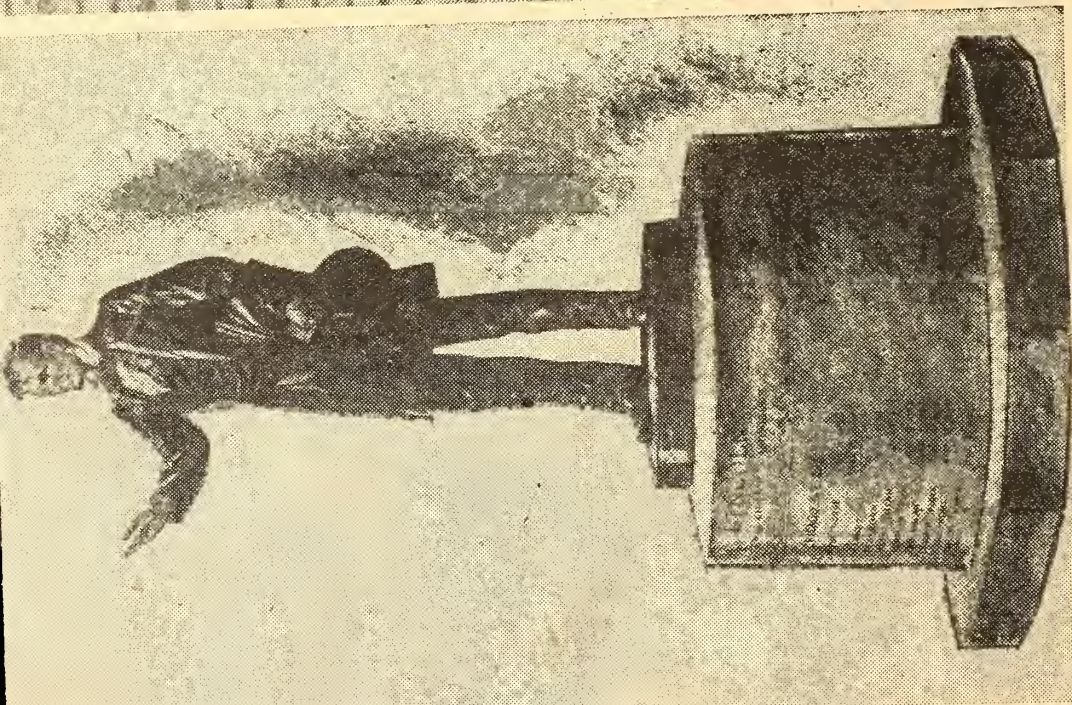
He also collects photographs of the President and has a collection deemed "unique" by authorities.

"I try to collect only the best available, the least retouched," Ostendorf said.

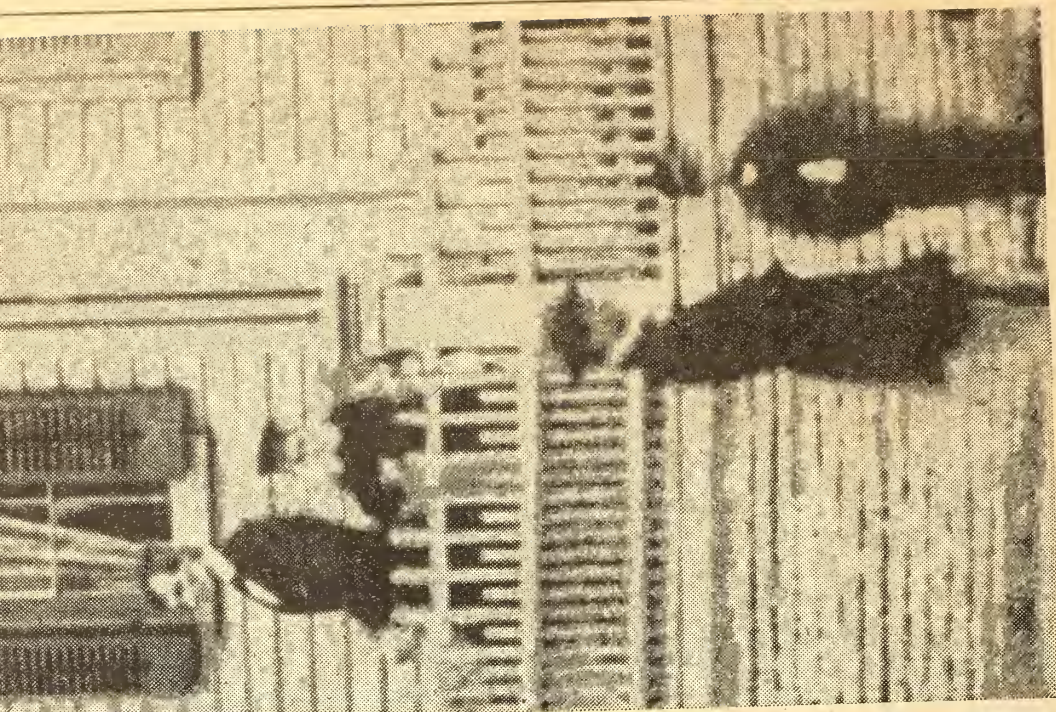
"My work as an artist helps me to detect flaws or 'improvements' and I find it remarkable how many fine sparkling photos do exist and how so many poorer ones have received more publicity,"

Ostendorf also tries to find all the unusual or slightly different variants of known Lincoln photographs.

"These furnish me with photographic evidence that on many occasions Lincoln sat before cameras with two or four lenses on the lensboard that produced several images on the negative plate, each



This sketch of a beardless, vigorous and erect Lincoln won a \$500 prize for Lloyd Ostendorf for a statue of Lincoln to be erected in Lincoln Square, Chicago.



This blow-up of the larger photograph of Lincoln gave artist Ostendorf the detail for his sketch. Rarely visible less and with a fondle of hair.

Decatur, Illinois, Sunday, May 1, 1955.





Copy of Carpenter's famous canvas "The Emancipation Proclamation," painted in 1864, showing President Lincoln and his cabinet. Thousands have viewed it in gallery in capital.

## NOTES FROM PAINTER'S DIARY

# When Lincoln Posed

By LLOYD OSTENDORF

**I**F A YOUNG artist today were favored with a sitting from the president of the United States he would doubtless feel that his portrait painting career held prospects for a great future.

Not only did 34-year-old Frank B. Carpenter have such a unique opportunity back in 1864 when Lincoln occupied the President's House, but the chief executive invited him to live at the White House for six months so that he might execute the painting of his lifetime. From February to July, 1864, Artist Carpenter was a privileged guest in the executive mansion.

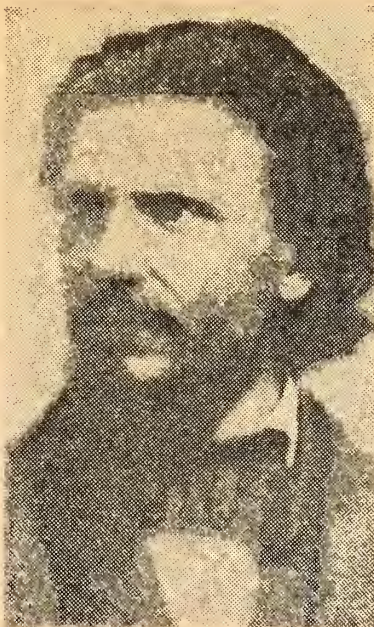
It was all a result of the young artist's determination to record on canvas the great historic event of the year 1863—Lincoln proclaiming his Emancipation Proclamation. And it developed that the artist became an intimate friend of the martyred president.

Frank Carpenter's grandson, Emerson Carpenter Ives, of Pawling, N. Y., recently gave the writer permission to copy entries from his grandfather's unpublished diaries and letters, and now fresh light is shed on the story of the artist, who lived with the Lincolns.

Although some historians held that Lincoln himself promoted the idea for the Emancipation painting as a piece of political propaganda for the 1864 elections, Carpenter's diary disproves this when he wrote exactly how the idea originated.

"Sunday, Nov. 29, 1863, . . . This morning on my way home from church I conceived the idea of painting a picture commemorative of the first reading in the cabinet council of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Lincoln."

Working on his idea which he



Frank B. Carpenter, who recorded historic event.

hoped would become a reality, he wrote for Monday, Dec. 14, 1863.

"Made the first sketch of the design for the picture of Mr. Lincoln and his cabinet . . ."

After struggling to obtain the necessary approvals to do the painting, his efforts were rewarded in the form of a Christmas "gift"—an answer to his burning ambition. On Friday, Dec. 25, 1863, he wrote:

"Mrs. Lincoln informed me that President Lincoln would sit for my large canvas."

Before the end of the year an old friend, Fred Lane, generously offered him all the funds needed to carry out as he put it, "his purpose and plans for the great picture." On the last day of the year he wrote in his diary,

"God be praised for this!"

Upon introduction Feb. 6 to Lincoln at Mrs. Lincoln's Saturday afternoon reception in the Blue Room, the President said, "Oh, yes; I know; this is the painter," and added with a twinkle in his eye, "Do you think Mr. Carpenter that you can make a handsome picture of ME?" Emphasizing strongly the last word.

That evening by appointment Carpenter went to Lincoln's official chamber and was received pleasantly by the President who said: "Well Mr. Carpenter, we will turn you loose in here and try to give you a good chance to work out your ideas." The state dining room was given over to the artist to use as a studio.

The diary for Feb. 9, 1864, records: "Today is cabinet day, and around 12 o'clock the members began to come in. The President introduced me to each as they came in, informing them that I had come there to paint a picture of them together . . . This afternoon, at 3 o'clock, Mr. Lincoln accompanied me to Brady's gallery for an ambrotype study . . ."

"In that way," related Carpenter's grandson, "he could facilitate matters greatly, having photographs of his subject in the position desired and he could work at times when sittings were not possible."

Months later when finally the painting was completed and viewed by thousands thronging through the White House, Lincoln commented, "It is as good as it can be made."

Diary entry for July 25 reads, "Universal satisfaction and praise bestowed upon me. It is pronounced in the papers and by all a complete success."





February, 1958



Photographs of Abraham Lincoln are collected by Lloyd Ostendorf of Dayton, Ohio, who has been saving such pictures since he was 13 years old. In Ostendorf's collection are 110 portraits of Lincoln, two of which have never been published, and four glass negatives once used in developing Lincoln pictures. Ostendorf has also built up a picture library of Lincoln's contemporaries.





### 149th Anniversary Tomorrow

## *She "Knows" This Man Lincoln, Though She's Only Three Plus*

By MARY ELLEN WOLFE  
Journal Herald Staff Writer

Roxanne Ostendorf, 3½, of 225 Lookout drive, is barely big enough to say "Abraham Lincoln." But she has no trouble recognizing Lincoln's picture.

And she doesn't realize that tomorrow is the 149th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. But she does call her father "Lincoln's boy."

Roxanne's early acquaintanceship with Lincoln is not a result of her saving Lincoln pennies.

Rather it is a reflection of the fact her father, Lloyd Ostendorf, has made Lincoln his hobby since he was a boy and has become a nationally recognized Lincoln scholar.

Every day Roxanne sees many of the thousands of Lincoln photographs Ostendorf has collected, in addition to his personal paintings and sculpture and other Lincolnia.

The most recent addition to the collection Ostendorf started as a Stivers high school student are two Lincoln photographs acquired Jan. 30 from a Kensington, Md. visitor here.

The visitor was Mrs. Albert C. Heyser, who came to see Ostendorf about the value of a black leather portfolio bearing Lincoln's name and Lincoln photos found in the portfolio.

Mrs. Heyser said she was personal companion of Mrs. Robert Lincoln, wife of the famed President's son, from 1928 to 1938, and that the portfolio and pictures were among some Lincoln possessions given her by Mrs. Lincoln.

Mrs. Heyser also reported having a copy of the Gettysburg address handwritten by Lincoln.

Ostendorf purchased two of the pictures, as that is his basic interest. He is contacting a Lincoln museum to see what it will offer for the portfolio, as compared with his personal offer.

And he is awaiting verification of the report that another copy of the Gettysburg address is in circulation. The last one sold for some \$53,000.

Mrs. Heyser told Ostendorf many of the President's personal possessions were discarded or given to servants when his daughter-in-law cleared out the attic of the Robert Lincoln home.

Ostendorf, a free lance artist and illustrator, would like to have the battered portfolio with its wallpaper lining to add to his collection.

So would little Roxanne apparently. She studied both portfolio and Lincoln pictures very knowingly while Mrs. Heyser watched in awe.

But Roxanne didn't say how many Lincoln pennies she will bid for them.





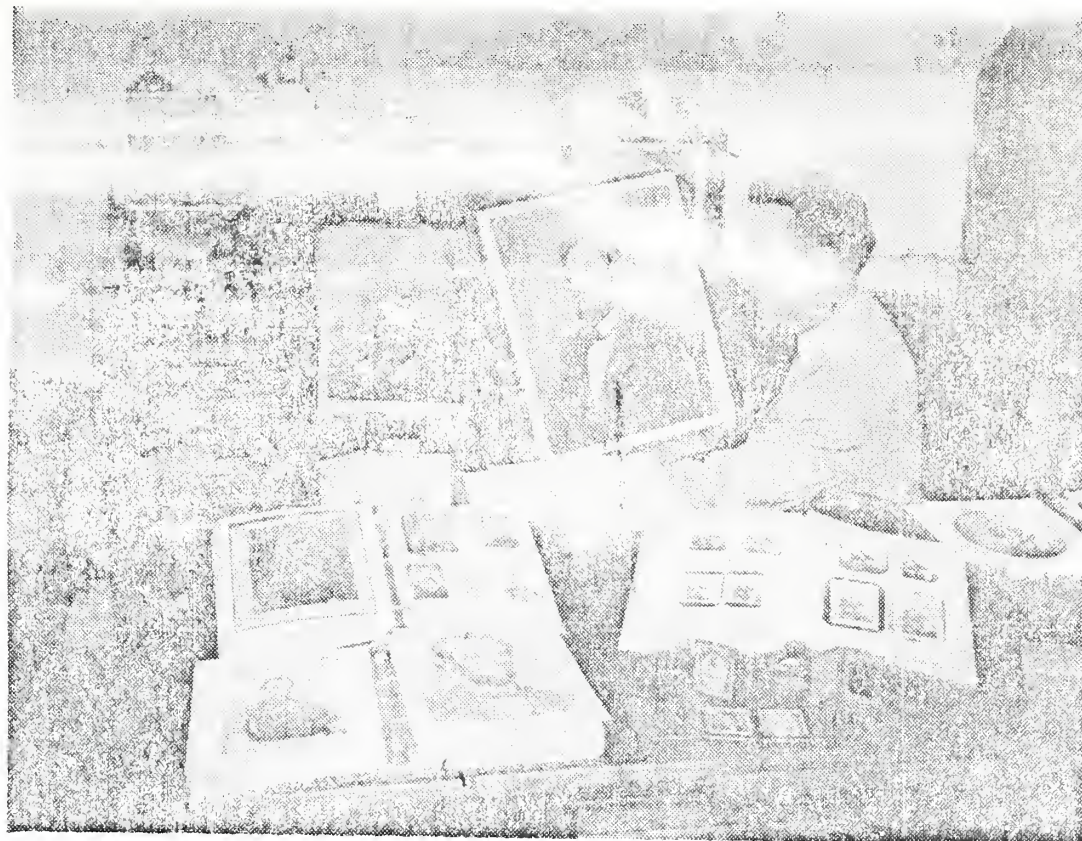
### *She's An Admirer Of The "Railsplitter"*

*BIRTHDAY SALUTE tomorrow to Abraham Lincoln includes one from little blonde Roxanne Ostendorf, who's following in her father's footsteps as far as admiring Lincoln goes. She's holding Lincoln's personal portfolio and one of 12 photos found in it.*





Standard Times  
New Bedford, Mass.  
February 12, 1958



**FINDER OF LINCOLN RARITY**—Lloyd Ostendorf, Dayton, Ohio illustrator, poses with a part of his collection of Lincoln photographs. He was the discoverer of the unpublished Lincoln photo taken by New Bedford photographer Edward Bierstadt in 1861. Mr. Ostendorf is preparing a book on Lincoln photographs, and plans to use the Bierstadt photo in it.

## Unpublished Lincoln Photo By City Man Is Discovered

By **BOB FINN**  
Standard-Times Writer

A hitherto unknown and unpublished photograph of Abraham Lincoln, taken in Washington in 1861 by a New Bedford photographer, has been brought to light by an Ohio man whose hobby since 13 has been collecting pictures of the Great Emancipator. The picture, hailed by Lincoln scholars as a genuine historical "find," is the first known picture taken of Lincoln after he became President, and the first known picture showing him with his famous beard.

It was taken by Edward Bierstadt, of the old New Bedford firm of Bierstadt Brothers, during a trip he made to the camp of the Army of the Potomac around Washington in 1861.

### Mounted on Card

Mounted on a small visiting card, the unusual photo is described by its finder and present owner, Lloyd Ostendorf of Dayton, Ohio, as "one of the most handsome photos of Lincoln ever taken."

The story of how this rare photograph came to be taken retells an interesting chapter of Civil War history. Equally absorbing is the modern story of the rediscovery of the photo 97 years later and the gradual reconstruction of the story behind it.



**EDWARD BIERSTADT**



**ALBERT BIERSTADT**





Ostendorf in a book is preparing about the history of all the pictures of Lincoln, his family and close friends, and certain phases of early American photography.

The book, a spare-time occupation for Mr. Ostendorf, is progressing "slow but sure," he says. It may not be ready for the publishers for a year or so. Mr. Ostendorf is keeping the picture under wraps until the book is published.

#### Began in New York

The trail of the unique Lincoln photo began in a cluttered and dusty building on the East Side of New York City, where Mr. Ostendorf turned it up while rummaging through a stack of old prints and pictures.

It was tucked in with others like it, little sepia-toned photos mounted on cards 2½ inches by 4 inches.

Leafing through the cards, Mr. Ostendorf was startled to find a likeness of Lincoln he had never seen or heard of before. Quickly he turned the card over, knowing the photographer's name would be on the back if it was an original. There he read in very fine print:

#### BIERSTADT BROTHERS

Photographers  
New Bedford, Mass.

After obtaining this find for his collection, Mr. Ostendorf began a search to discover when and where the photograph may have been taken. Very early he contacted Charles H. Lincoln, clerk of the 1st District Court in Taunton, and a Lincoln scholar in his own right.

Mr. Lincoln brought the subject to the attention of The Standard-Times, inquiring when Abraham Lincoln may have visited New Bedford in addition to his one known visit here in 1848 when, as a little-known Congressman from Illinois, he was campaigning for Zachary Taylor for President.

Here began the fascinating research trail leading back to a day in September 1861 when Edward Bierstadt had Lincoln pose for him in Washington.

#### Beard Is Evidence

The 1848 trip was ruled out, as was a journey through nearby cities early in 1860. The decisive evidence here is the famous Lincoln beard, shown in luxuriant fullness in the photo. Lincoln remained clean-shaven until after his nomination for the presidency in November 1860.

The files at the Free Public Library yielded much information about the Bierstadt brothers: Charles and Edward went into the photography partnership and younger brother Albert was the famous painter. Examples of his work now hang in the library.

The Bierstadt photographic studio operated in New Bedford from pre-Civil War days until 1867, when the partners went their separate ways.

In the Fall of 1861, Edward Bierstadt conceived the idea that there was profit to be had in following the Union troops as photographer. Down he went and set up his first headquarters in a tavern 7 miles above Georgetown (now a part of Washington) on the Virginia side of the Potomac River.

Bierstadt made frequent field trips with his wagon and tent, visiting the camps of various regiments to offer his services.

He became very busy taking views of forts and points of interest, and filling the orders of soldiers for portraits to send home to family and friends. In time his open-air studio became so swamped with work that he sent back to New Bedford for an assistant to come and help him.

After a while, however, Edward Bierstadt was forced to return to New Bedford due to a serious illness in his family, and his assistant, unable to handle the work, had to find simpler means of making a living with his camera.

From this point the research shifted to the standard Lincoln biographies, showing what the new President was doing at that period. Ida Tarbell and Carl Sandburg both relate how Lincoln, during the Fall of 1861, took an almost daily drive in which he visited the military camps around the city and talked with the soldiers.

#### Possibilities Explored

Mr. Ostendorf here enters the field of historical conjecture. Perhaps Edward Bierstadt got Lincoln to pose for him during one of the President's visits to a military camp! But there is still another possibility, even more interesting:

When Lincoln spoke in New Bedford in 1848, his speech was given in Liberty Hall, at Purchase and William Streets, present site of the Merchants Bank Building. At least for a time this same building was the site of the photographic "gallery" of Bierstadt Brothers.

It seems possible to Mr. Ostendorf that Lincoln had met Bierstadt there in 1848 and started an acquaintance that was renewed in Washington 13 years later. "It is not unreasonable to assume," says Mr. Ostendorf, "that Edward called on the President at the White House."

The authenticity of the Bierstadt photo has been attested by all the noted Lincoln scholars to whom Mr. Ostendorf has showed it. It is the only known photo of him taken from the time of his inauguration, March 4, 1861, to October of that year, and thus it is the earliest known photo showing Lincoln as President.

#### Has Uncommon Tie

The picture shows Lincoln with an unusually full beard, characteristic of 1861 and 1862, with hair neatly combed, bushy eyebrows, eyes staring to his left, and a serious expression on his face. He is wearing an uncommon type of bow tie, noticed in only one other known Lincoln photo.

Bierstadt used an ingenious camera angle for his photo, looking slightly down on the subject's head, rather than straight

ahead toward his face. The vignetted bust portrait was apparently taken in mid-September, and, says Mr. Ostendorf, it appears that no other photos were

taken. Mr. Ostendorf now has the original in a fireproof safe.

Mr. Ostendorf is full of admiration for Bierstadt's photographic skill. "He was a foremost photographic artist of his day," he says. The Ohioan has traced the later history of the two brothers and uncovered some interesting examples of their work, including Civil War scenes and an interesting trick photograph showing the other brother, Albert Bierstadt, pouring a cup of tea for himself.

Edward went to New York City and continued at his photographic work until his death at 84 in 1906. His brother Charles moved to Niagara Falls, N. Y., where he specialized in scenic views, and where his old stereo cards may still be found, bearing his picture and the imprint "C. Bierstadt."

#### Eastman Was Employee

One of his employees in Niagara Falls was George Eastman of Rochester, later to become famous as the inventor of the Kodak process. Mr. Eastman actually offered Charles Bierstadt a half interest in the invention for \$3,000, but Charles could not raise the money.

Mr. Ostendorf, after what he calls "quite a search," located two surviving grandsons of Edward Bierstadt. One, Albert Morton Turner of Orono, Me., generously loaned some of his grandfather's old pictures to Mr. Ostendorf.

The other grandson, the last to bear the family name, is a writer and editor, Edward H. Bierstadt of New York City.

Reminiscing about the New Bedford man who, 97 years ago took that striking and heretofore unknown Lincoln picture, Edward Bierstadt said, "I often in my childhood saw my grandfather. He was most kindly and gracious, in fact everybody liked him. He was in the photographic business in New York City and turned out photographs for books."

#### Was Uncommercial

"He was utterly uncommercial. He did not keep up with the times, and did not pretend to. He was a man of very great sweetness and gentleness of character, and he had none of the 'push' that he probably needed to turn his genius into money."

"He developed various forms of photographic plates, and, so I have been told, did the first three of color photography to be done in this city."

But none of Edward Bierstadt's later achievements match in historical importance the portrait of Abraham Lincoln done by him on a September day in 1861 in Washington after he had come down from his native New Bedford with his little portable photo studio.





funeral train was scheduled to leave Albany at 4:00 P.M. on April 26, 1865 and to arrive in Buffalo at 7:00 A.M. on April 27, 1865.

The time table states that the "pilot engine and train will have the right to the track over all other trains, and no train will run within twenty minutes of their time."

#### Todd Genealogy

An interesting original document listing the name of Robert Smith Todd's first wife and their children has recently been acquired. The names of the children listed are Elizabeth, Levi, Frances, Mary, Anne and George. Also, the name of Elizabeth is recorded as the wife of N. W. Edwards, Frances as the wife of William S. Wallace, Mary as the wife of A. Lincoln, and Anne as the wife of C. M. Smith. Apparently, some member of the Todd family wrote on the document the name of Robert T. Lincoln, but could not remember his birth day. Also, the name Wm. W. appears with no birth date, but his death date is given correctly as February 20, 1862. However, the great significance of this document lies in the notations on the margin in the handwriting of Lincoln. He wrote as follows:

"My father Thomas L. Jan. 177

Mother Nancy Hanks, Feb. 5, 1784

Married Nov. 4 (corner of document removed)

Born (birthdate of Robert) Aug. 1, 1843

Edw. Mar. 10, 1846

Willie Dec. 21, 1850

Tad April 4, 1853."

### A Cast Iron Platform Scale and an Original Pen and Ink Sketch Featuring Abraham Lincoln's Connection With The Corneau-Diller Drug Store at Springfield, Illinois.

An exhibit depicting Abraham Lincoln's connection with the Corneau-Diller Drug Store in Springfield, Illinois, has been placed on display in the Lincoln Library-Museum of the Lincoln National Life Foundation. The exhibit consists of the original cast iron platform scale from the drug store, and a pen and ink sketch by Lloyd Ostendorf of Dayton, Ohio featuring Abraham Lincoln, the druggist and the scale.

It is well known among Lincoln students that in the 1850's Lincoln was a familiar figure in the business life of Springfield, and his favorite loafing place in the winter months was around the back stove of the Corneau-Diller Drug Store, located on the east side of the Public Square. In the summer months, Lincoln and his cronies lined up on the sidewalk in front of the store.

Here Lincoln and his friends swapped yarns, argued politics, and occasionally made purchases, according to the business ledgers (still extant) which show various entries to the future President's account.

An article entitled "Loafing with Lincoln" by Wayne C. Temple, which appeared in the Summer, 1961 issue of the *Lincoln Herald*, provides a scholarly and exhaustive study of this mercantile establishment, along with a photograph of Roland Weaver Diller, one of the proprietors.

As loafing at Diller's was a daily happy interlude in Lincoln's life, artists have attempted to capture in imaginary scenes some of the events that transpired here. Jay Hambridge drew two illustrations for Ida M. Tarbell's "Billy Brown" stories, which feature the drug store and its proprietor. The chief character in the Tarbell



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

This original pen and ink sketch by Lloyd Ostendorf depicts Abraham Lincoln with Roland Weaver Diller in the Corneau-Diller Drug Store. The original sketch measures 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Note the druggist's scale in the picture. In the Foundation's photographic files are to be found exterior and interior views of the Corneau-Diller Drug Store as well as excellent photographs of the druggist and his wife.

stories was R. W. Diller who was introduced to her readers as "Billy Brown."

Up to date, Ostendorf has made four sketches of the exterior and interior of the Corneau-Diller Drug Store. Three of these drawings were published in his excellent book, *A Picture Story of Abraham Lincoln*, Lathrop, Lee and Shepard Company, Inc., 1962. These same sketches have also appeared in the quarterly magazine, *Lincoln Herald*.

A fourth sketch depicting Lincoln purchasing drugs from R. W. Diller has been drawn by Ostendorf primarily to feature the scale. In executing this drawing, the artist gave particular attention to minute details after making a study of early photographs taken of the interior of the establishment. This sketch has never before been published.

While the original scale has no direct connection with Lincoln, it is a part of the original equipment of the drug store and was in use during the period when Lincoln was a frequent visitor or customer.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

Original cast-iron platform scale used in the Corneau-Diller Drug Store when Lincoln was a frequent visitor and customer. The scale measures 12" long, 4" high and 5" wide.





By DALE HUFFMAN  
Daily News Staff Writer

A photograph of Abraham Lincoln standing outside his family home in Springfield, Ill., is part of the world's largest collection of authentic Lincoln photographs belonging to Daytonian Lloyd Ostendorf.

The newest acquisition arrived at his home, 225 Lookout Dr., just in time for the 166th anniversary of Lincoln's birth today. It was purchased from another Lincoln buff.

"IMPORTANT Lincoln items and information have a way of making a path to my door," Ostendorf said. "I don't know anyone who welcomes them more. I'll always be in the market for Lincoln items."

Ostendorf, 53, is known nationwide as a Lincoln historian, photo collector, biographer and lecturer. His interest in the legacy of the 16th President began when he was 13, and he "began putting Lincoln photos in my room," he said.

He began gathering his priceless collection of Lincoln photos and memorabilia when he was in his late 20s.

HIS INTENSE interest in Lincoln spurred him to build a rail fence around his Oakwood home in true Lincoln style, using an ax. He also built a log cabin near Englewood, has a family houseboat called the Abraham Lincoln, and was a guest in the White House during a Lincoln celebration under President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"You get identified with something like this, and it grows and grows," he said. "It is unbelievable the amount of things that show up."

He said he can't put a monetary value on the collection. "But I think perhaps my most prized possession is an original plaster cast made directly from President Lincoln's face by sculptor Clark Mills a few months before the President was assassinated."

OSTENDORF said the cast was to be used to make a statue. The cast eventually went to the family of John Hay, a secretary to Lincoln, and finally Ostendorf acquired it.

Ostendorf, who runs an art academy at 504 E. Dorothy Lane, said that for him the "mystery and magic" of the Great Emancipator will never end.

"A lot of heroes crumble



Daily News Photo by Wally Nelson

LLOYD OSTENDORF AND SOME OF HIS ABRAHAM LINCOLN MEMORABILIA  
Holding Photo of Lincoln on His Porch, 1865 Life Mask, 1860 Bust

## Lincoln Items Just Keep Pouring Into Home Here

when scrutinized at close range," he said. "But the more we find out about Lincoln, the more we think he was the greatest President of all."





"So," Charnwood said, "this question thoroughly bores me." Then, remembering the letter's recipient, he added a hasty parenthetical comment—"except that Lincoln's own interest in the subject is an interesting trait in him as Herndon & Weik record it." Still, having written a book about Lincoln, Charnwood felt that he might be "bound to know what there is to be known about it." Several questions followed for the sake of "antiquarian accuracy."

Charnwood had known of the questions surrounding Lincoln's Hanks ancestry when he wrote his book, and he queried Weik about new theories on the legitimacy of Lincoln's mother. In America, Charnwood had been astonished to learn that some raised questions about Lincoln's own legitimacy. "My time at Springfield," Charnwood said, "(in which I met some delightful people of the older generation who gave me, though without much detail a vivid impression of old times) was a little too much taken up with hearing tangled stories in which this question [of Lincoln's legitimacy] got mixed up with the other which I have spoken of [the question of Lincoln's mother's legitimacy]." One man in particular had been much taken with the notion that Lincoln was descended from John Marshall. "I think my friend," Charnwood went on, "is merely suffering from a variety of the same disease which makes others desire to derive Lincoln from wholly respectable people of [as] good standing as possible. He can not suffer it that a great man should have arisen without some ancestor of manifest intellectual eminence." Charnwood was "inclined to treat the idea as rubbish," but he still wanted to know whether there was anything to it.

Lord Charnwood concluded his letter thus:

I feel almost ashamed to have filled up my letter with questions which are of no importance in comparison with the actual life & work & character of the man who was any way Abraham Lincoln whoever his ancestors were.

Never afraid to ask questions or hear answers that might change his mind, Lord Charnwood nevertheless kept his focus always on the essentials of Lincoln's greatness.

### Lloyd Ostendorf Joins Bibliography Committee

Lloyd Ostendorf of Dayton, Ohio, will join the Bibliography Committee which passes judgment on the inclusion of items in *Lincoln Lore's* Cumulative Bibliography. Born in Dayton on June 23, 1921, Mr. Ostendorf graduated from Stivers High School in his home town in 1939. He began studying art after his graduation. He attended the Dayton Art Institute from 1939 to 1941. He spent the summer of 1940 in New York City, studying with cartoonist Milton Caniff and his associates. In 1941 Mr. Ostendorf enlisted in the Army Air Corps, with which he served until 1945.

The war interrupted Mr. Ostendorf's career in illustration and portrait work which began in 1939. He has furnished art work for many different publications and projects, and much of it has focused on Abraham Lincoln. Fascinated by the "oddly balanced ruggedness and beauty" of Lincoln's face, he began drawing pictures of Lincoln when he was twelve years old. His attention naturally turned to the photographs of Lincoln which he copied and adapted. Mr. Ostendorf got special encouragement in his work from Louis A. Warren, one of the few Lincoln authorities at the time interested in encouraging work with Lincoln pictures. As he sought photographs from which to work, Mr. Ostendorf also came into contact with Frederick Hill Meserve, the first great student and collector of Lincoln photographs. Meserve was "as nice as an old man could be to a young man" who shared his interest, Mr. Ostendorf remembers.

Mr. Ostendorf's first book *A Picture Story of Abraham Lincoln* (1962), a biography for young readers, was so popular that it has been reissued by Lamplight Publishing, Inc., as *Abraham Lincoln: The Boy and the Man*. His next work was

*Lincoln in Photographs: An Album of Every Known Pose* (1963), which he wrote with Charles Hamilton. This book, essential to even the smallest Lincoln library, is still available from the University of Oklahoma Press. Hardly a week passes in which the staff of the Louis A. Warren Lincoln Library and Museum fails to consult this fine book to answer questions about Lincoln photographs and the many lithographs and engravings inspired by them, and this is surely true of every other Lincoln institution as well.

Mr. Ostendorf's expertise in this very specialized but popular area of Lincolniana has been widely recognized. Lincoln Memorial University awarded him the Lincoln Diploma of Honor in 1966. Lincoln College awarded him an honorary degree (Litt. D.) in 1968, and Lincoln Memorial University added another (Art. D.) in 1974. He has been the art editor of the *Lincoln Herald* since 1957, and all Lincoln students are familiar with the wonderfully varied covers he provides for that quarterly journal. He was also an honorary member of the National Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission.

Mr. Ostendorf, in addition to illustrating greeting cards and religious materials, maintains his interest in Lincolniana. He recently completed a painting of Lincoln's stepmother for the Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center in Mattoon, Illinois. Another recent portrait of Mary Todd Lincoln as a young woman hangs in the restored Todd home in Lexington, Kentucky. Studying photographs in order to determine what historical figures looked like in periods when no photographs of them are available is a special interest. Mr. Ostendorf has also been working on three books: a study of Lincoln portraits from life (with Harold Holzer); the recollections of Mariah Vance, a Lincoln family maid in Springfield (with David Balsiger); and a Lincoln family photograph album (with James T. Hickey).

Over the years, Mr. Ostendorf's interests have grown from Lincoln's physical appearance to all aspects of his life. His general knowledge and his special expertise make him a most welcome addition to the advisory board.



From the Louis A. Warren  
Lincoln Library and Museum

FIGURE 5. Lloyd Ostendorf













Photo by Pat Tolan

A fascination with Abraham Lincoln has pervaded the work of Oakwood artist Lloyd Ostendorf, shown here with his painting of Sarah Bush Lincoln, the stepmother of the president.

## 'A fine woman'

### Artist gives Lincoln's stepmother life

By MARY McCARTY  
Staff Writer

Lloyd Ostendorf's art work keeps the memory of Abraham Lincoln and his times alive.

The Oakwood resident, a freelance artist and art teacher, has just completed a painting of Lincoln's stepmother, Sarah Bush Lincoln, that will grace the halls of an Illinois medical center named in her honor.

The portrait of a plainly dressed but pretty young woman standing in front of a log cabin is Ostendorf's imaginative interpretation of the way that Mrs. Lincoln would have looked as Lincoln first knew her. The only existing photograph of her was taken in old age.

Such leaps of imagination are not uncommon for Ostendorf, who painted a portrait of Lincoln's real mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, based only on written descriptions of those who knew her.

Furthermore, Ostendorf has made a career out of depicting, in sketches and paintings, real or imagined scenes from Lincoln's life.

"I think I have a record of portraying Lincoln, in drawings, paintings and cartoons," he says.

HE STARTED his Lincoln hobby at the age of 12. His fascination with Lincoln the man began as an artist's appreciation for his face.

"Through my art, I have liked Lincoln's face. There's just

no other face like it. I became fascinated in drawing Lincoln and gradually became interested in the man himself," he says.

What makes Lincoln, as an individual, so interesting and worthy of study?

"He was the most revered and possibly the greatest of our presidents," Ostendorf says. "He had so many sides as a man, from huckster to drover to helper of making wagon wheels. He was also a postmaster. He was a good writer and student all his life."

Lincoln's fame also has escaped the personal blemishes that make it difficult to revere other presidents as heroes.

"We've discovered no skeletons in his closet yet," Ostendorf says. "With others, we have something that takes the glamour out of them. Lincoln had his faults, but he was an honest man, and in today's politics, that's something quite rare."

Lincoln's genius as a literary man and as a war strategist also make him unique, he says.

OSTENDORF'S STUDIO, crowded with photographs of Lincoln and his contemporaries, resembles a Lincoln museum, and he owns several Lincoln artifacts that even the country's most distinguished history museums would envy. One of these is the first impression out of the mold of a life mask of Lincoln that was made

only a few months before his death.

Ostendorf also owns an impressive collection of Lincoln photographs. Only 130 are in existence.

He compiled and co-authored a book, "Lincoln in Photographs," with all the existing photographs of Lincoln.

"His face was interesting from every angle, as if it were purposefully created by God to be unlike any other face," Ostendorf observes.

From October through May, Ostendorf teaches youth and adult art classes in a studio located above the dance studio in Ketterling operated by his wife, Rita Hoefler. The combination of commercial art, painting and teaching has been a successful mix for him.

For his most recent work, which will be delivered to the Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center next week, Ostendorf researched the costumes of the period.

"This is hopefully how Lincoln would have remembered her," he says.

LINCOLN'S STEPMOTHER exerted a powerful influence over his life, according to Ostendorf.

"From 1820 on, she was Lincoln's guiding light," Ostendorf says. "She claimed that their minds ran in the same channels. She fostered his desire to read. She knew that he was a finer man than her own sons. She was a tall, noble, erect, nice-looking woman with ambition."



Lincoln's 6-foot, 4-inch frame was in direct contrast to his friend standing beside him, Rep. John A. Gurley of Cincinnati. The assemblage was amused when Lincoln joked, "My friends, this is the long of it," pointing to himself, and then placing his hand on Gurley's head, "and this is the short of it."

At a speaker's stand alongside the tracks, Lincoln commented on his remarks, "This beautiful and far-famed Miami Valley is the garden spot of the world."

And Mrs. Lincoln who had accompanied him, wrote to a close friend on Oct. 2, 1859. "Since I last wrote to you, I have been wandering. Mr. L. and myself visited Columbus, and some beautiful portions of Ohio and I made a charming visit to Cincinnati."

The Lincolns made a similar excursion through Ohio in 1861 for his inaugural trip to Washington as President-elect. However, on this second visit his train did not come through Dayton but bypassed the Gem City, going from Cincinnati to Columbus via the Little Miami Railroad.

Recently there came to light a small relic from the beginning of his historic train ride to the nation's capitol — a piece of paper now in the author's collection.

On it he wrote:

*A. Lincoln  
Springfield, Illinois  
Feb. 11, 1861*

Accompanying his signature was usually the written date in his notes and letters, but his autographs rarely bore the name of his hometown as well. This particular autograph was probably signed upon request of a friend just before he embarked for Washington. It was the day before his 52nd birthday. More importantly, no other such autograph to a well-

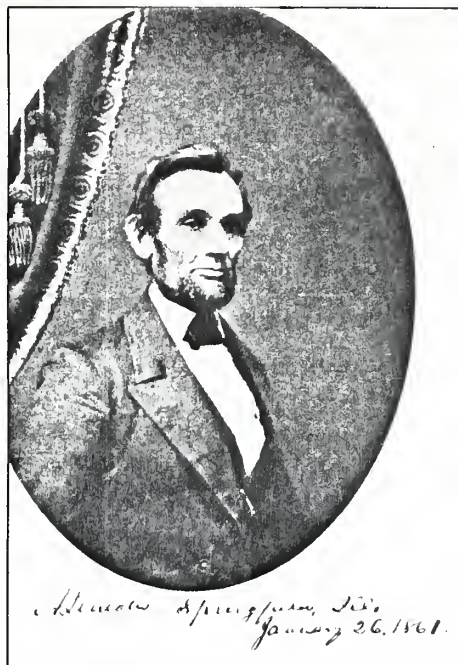
*A. Lincoln  
Springfield  
Illinois  
Feb. 11, 1861.*

*R. J. Mason Esq*

*I have the pleasure to hand you herewith the photograph of Pres. Lincoln you can rely upon it as original and genuine signed by Lincoln*

*Respectfully  
R. J. Mason  
Chicago Feb. 12/61*

Lincoln's autograph dated the day he left for Washington



Old photograph signed by Lincoln



Artist's conception of Lincoln delivering his farewell speech

wisher of that time and date is known to exist. The collected chronology of Lincoln's writings indicates that no other signatures of his are extant from Feb. 8, to March 1, 1861. Naturally, traveling by train, and making public appearances along his inaugural route left little or no time for him to practice his penmanship.

This rare signature is also authenticated by the man who received it, B.A. Phillips. In Chicago, two days later, he signed the bottom of the paper himself when he presented it to his friend, R.J. Mason. He wrote:

*The autograph of President Lincoln. You can rely upon it as original and genuine beyond any doubt.*

*(Signed) Respectfully, B.A. Phillips  
Chicago, February 13, 1861*

It turned out that the aggressive autograph seeker Phillips was an insurance agent, age 35, who with his wife, Mary, were the parents of three daughters. All of them but the youngest girl, according to the census, were born in Ohio. The Chicago gentleman who received the Lincoln autograph, Mr. R.J. Mason, has not been identified. But his descendants must have cherished it for many years in Illinois before it found a home in Dayton.

Lincoln seldom signed his full name, except on legal documents, etc. The familiar "A. Lincoln" was his usual method of identification written under his photographs or on his letters. Today, not all of Lincoln's signatures and writings have found their way into museums and institutions. Those that still remain in private hands, or are retained as family keepsakes, have become increasingly scarce and valuable. The historical significance and rarity of the writing determines its worth.

As President-elect, early in 1861, Mr. Lincoln apparently became more conscious of the fact that his days at his home in Springfield were dwindling down to a precious few. Soon he would embark on his long journey to Washington, D.C., and the task of the presidency. He never knew if he would return home again. Indeed, he must have had a premonition of his fate. In his sentimental farewell address to the townspeople, he must have felt the possibility of a Civil War, and remarked in his address:

*"I now leave, not knowing when, or whether ever I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington..."*

Another similar memento in the author's collection is a photograph signed by Lincoln. The picture was taken by Springfield cameraman, Chris German, a few days before Lincoln left Springfield. Lincoln thoughtfully wrote under the image,

*A. Lincoln, Springfield, Ill., January 26, 1861.*

Here again he very likely wanted to identify his hometown of 25 years with his name. This portrait shows him with his new whiskers, started in November, 1860, the way he was to look after becoming our first bearded president.

So it is that Lincoln's keepsakes appropriately bring to mind that he passed this way and can be remembered with his journey to immortality.







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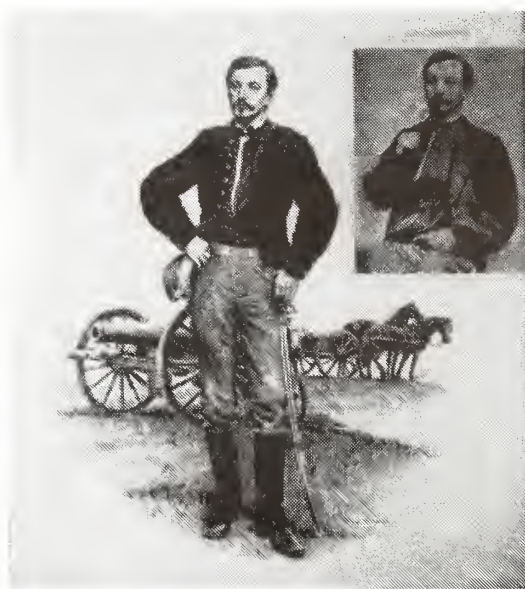
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President Lincoln In Conference  
with Adm. Porter, Gen. Sherman  
and Gen. Grant, Feb. 3, 1865.



A Civil War Soldier Put Back In Uniform  
By Artist Ostendorf.



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## EXAMPLES OF LLOYD OSTENDORF'S INK AND WASH PAINTINGS ...



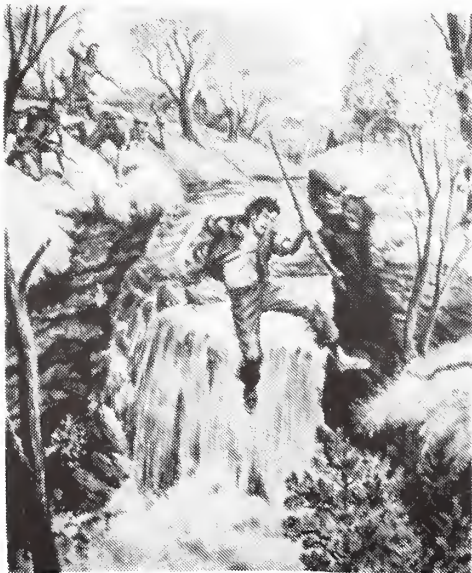
Lawyer Lincoln Traveling  
The Circuit In Illinois.



A Specially Commissioned Soldier  
Illustration.

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### HISTORIC OHIO INCIDENT



Darnel's Leap and Escape  
From the Indians at Little  
Miami River Gorge.

### HAVE YOUR FAMILY FORBEARER PORTRAYED IN UNIFORM.



End Of The Day In  
Lincoln's White House Office.  
The President With His  
Youngest Son, Tad.

- 
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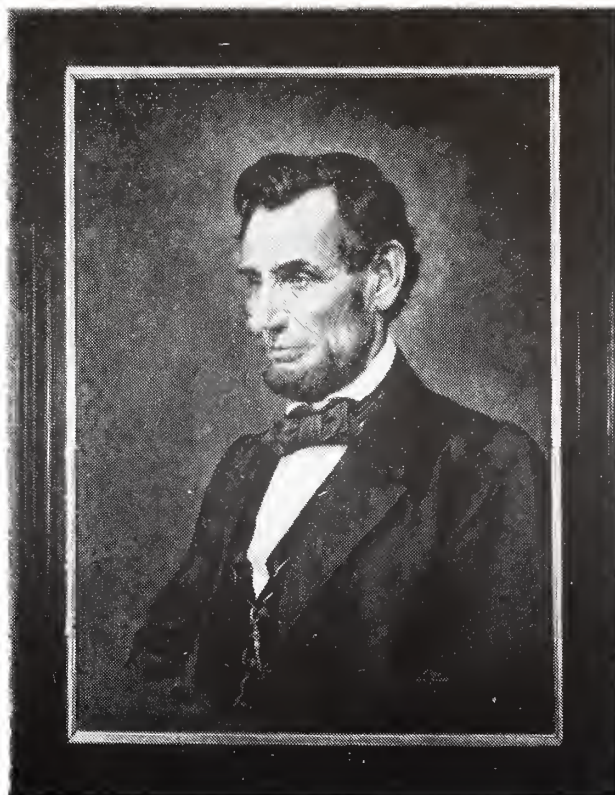
President Lincoln Speaking at Gettysburg In 1863, Where A Close-Up Photo Was Never Taken.



Water Color Or Pastel Portraits And Scenes Also Our Specialty.



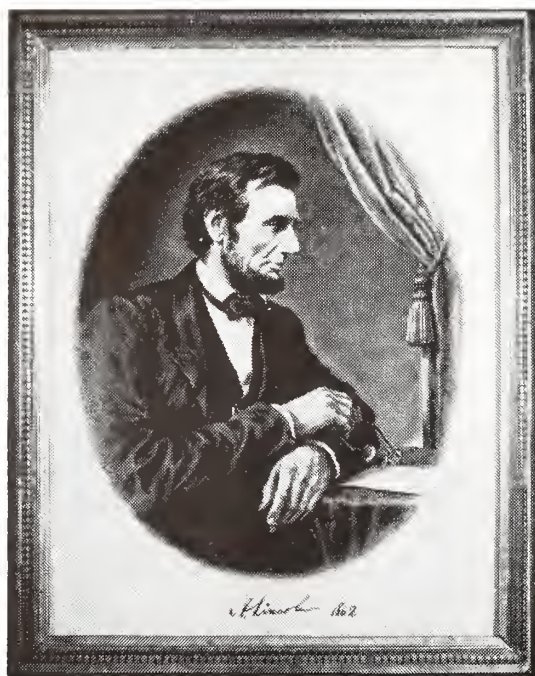
Lincoln And His War Secretary Stanton, Whom He Called "Mars." Originally Done As Cover Art For The Lincoln Herald, Purchased By A Collector.



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EXAMPLES OF OSTENDORF'S ART WORK...



A Profile Ink and Wash  
Painting of President Lincoln.



Gen. George Rogers Clark  
Oil Painting By Ostendorf 1976  
Hangs in Governor's Mansion,  
Springfield, Illinois.

CIVIL WAR MILITARY PICTURES...



Col. U.S. Grant With His Horse.  
As He Appeared Early in The  
Civil War in Illinois.



Southern Soldier  
J.D. Edgar in Uniform  
Posed Formally. Picture Done  
For His Descendant From  
A Faded Old Photo.

# Journey to Greatness

By Lloyd Ostendorf

**T**his year marks the 175th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, and it seems fitting and proper to note some relics and reminders associated with his journey to greatness.

To Americans before 1858, Mr. Lincoln was not much more than a prairie lawyer, a one-term congressman with no great credits to his career, until he became associated with Illinois Senator, Stephen A. Douglas. As rival candidates for the U.S. Senate, the Lincoln and Douglas joint debates of 1858 made "Honest Abe" a nationally known figure. Their political swings through Ohio, with speeches by Douglas closely followed by those of Lincoln in the fall of 1859, were an extension of their famous debates of the previous year.

As history records, Douglas won the senate seat but lost the bigger contest for the presidency to Lincoln in the 1860 elections.

When Douglas made his whirlwind political tour through southern Ohio in 1859, he spoke in Columbus on Sept. 7, then made a stop in Dayton on the 8th and went on to Cincinnati for an address on the 9th.

The "Little Giant," as he was called, spent the night in Dayton. Though not generally known, he stayed at the downtown residence of Dr. Edwin Smith, whose old home still stands today at 131 W. Third St., known as the Dayton Bicycle Club.

Mr. Lincoln followed Douglas' trail and answered his speeches with his own political beliefs. He spoke in Columbus Sept. 16 and arrived in Dayton before noon, Sept. 17. There he spoke briefly from a balcony at the Phillips House at the southwest corner of Third and Main streets. At 2 p.m., he gave his main address in front of the Old Courthouse and after two hours, he boarded the southbound train at the Union Depot and headed for Cincinnati for his evening address there.

The colorful fall foliage and scenic countryside must have impressed Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln during their trip through Ohio. There was also a brief train stop along the canal at Hamilton, Ohio and Lincoln appeared to the crowd on the back platform of the train.

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*Lloyd Ostendorf is an artist, lives in Oakwood and has written five books on Abraham Lincoln.*

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### *New Emblem*

Every organization needs a symbol. Lloyd Ostendorf, a free-lance professional artist, from Dayton, Ohio, has given this drawing of the young Lincoln to the Abraham Lincoln Boy Scout Council. Ostendorf, a friend of Dr. Wayne C. Temple, a member of the Lincoln Trail Hike Committee and an active Scouter in the Council, has given the council custody of this drawing. Ostendorf is an outstanding Lincoln artist, serves as art editor of "The Lincoln Herald," and has written three books on Lincoln. He has also served as a Scout-





Taylorville Breeze Courier 10/05/86

## 'Aging Lincoln' to help tourism dollars in area

The Central Illinois Tourism Council presents an exciting program featuring internationally renowned Lincoln artist Lloyd Ostendorf and world famous Lincoln historian Dr. Wayne C. Temple, Thursday, October 16, 1986 1 p.m., at the Decatur Civic Center. This very special program will be one of Mr. Ostendorf's rare public artistic performances. It's free and open to the public. Doors open at 12:40 p.m.

Gifted artist and photographer, Lloyd Ostendorf will present promotional ideas for generating tourism dollars in central Illinois; Mr. Lincoln's Country. He will also discuss his long fascination with Abraham Lincoln the boy and the man, while drawing a picture of Lincoln that ages before your very eyes.

Chief Deputy Director of the Illinois State Archives, Dr. Wayne C. Temple will be there to answer any

and all questions about Lincoln's association with any community or county in the central Illinois area. In the unlikely event someone "stumps" him, he will research the question and provide the answer by mail at a later date. Retired Lieutenant General Temple, who commanded the Illinois State Militia, will be in full uniform.

An original art drawing of Lincoln, and a signed (1 of 500) Lincoln colored print (\$150 value), plus three autographed copies of Abraham Lincoln The boy The Man will be given as attendance door prizes. Free refreshments will be available.

Lincoln look-alike, Charles Ott, will preside as President Lincoln.

Mr. Ostendorf's "aging Lincoln" drawing which he does very rarely, will be auctioned off as a fundraiser for the Central Illinois Tourism Council at the end of the program.

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# Face of Lincoln fascinates artist

By BOB FALLSTROM  
Herald & Review Lifestyle Editor

A lifetime of fascination flows through Lloyd Ostendorf's fingers.

The fascination is with Abraham Lincoln's face. Ostendorf has drawn thousands of Lincoln faces, more than any other artist. The latest was sketched with chalk pencils last week during a Central Illinois Tourism Council meeting in the Decatur Civic Center.

The 65-year-old Ostendorf, from Dayton, Ohio, is an internationally renowned interpreter of Lincoln's craggy appearance. "I don't think God ever created another face like Lincoln's," Ostendorf points out. "I hope he never does. Lincoln is my hero."

The fascination began when Ostendorf was 12. Many of his art teachers despaired about Ostendorf's future, maintaining that everybody he drew looked like Lincoln. It's a continuing preoccupation. "I'm still learning about Lincoln's face," he admits. "New material, new pictures are still surfacing."

As he talked, Ostendorf rapidly sketched a young Lincoln — without beard. Then he began "aging" the portrait — adding the full beard, the deep lines, the five sets of wrinkles.

Lincoln started growing the beard toward the end of 1860. Ostendorf told the council members. "He had bristly whiskers. I have a couple in my collection. Lin-

coln was one of a kind even concerning whiskers.

"Some people considered Lincoln ugly. He was a wrinkly skinned person. His ears were big. His nose was big and crooked. His eyes were big. He had pocketmarks, an odd little lump on his lower lip. He had a flesh-colored mole on the left side of the cheek. He had a big Adam's apple, a long neck.

"Ugly." No, he had a sort of rugged beauty. His eyes had a certain dreaminess. They were as transparent as an alabaster vase. They were honest eyes. You believed as in Lincoln, you trusted Lincoln when you looked into his eyes."

After adding a last tiny bit of shading to the portrait's eyes, Ostendorf watched Jim Finks, the mayor of Shelbyville, become the highest auction bidder at \$300 for this rare illustration.

The auction was a fund-raiser for the council. Another fund-raiser will be proceeds from Ostendorf's book "Abraham Lincoln: The Boy — The Man." The council (representing 28 counties) will be the exclusive distributor for the book. It sells for \$7.50 in gift shops and bookstores.

As you might expect, the book is a labor of love. It has 122 line drawings, 24 ink and wash paintings, 103 rare photographs. The pictures have a unique twist — artwork flowing into original photographs. It's another aspect of Ostendorf's never-ending fascination.

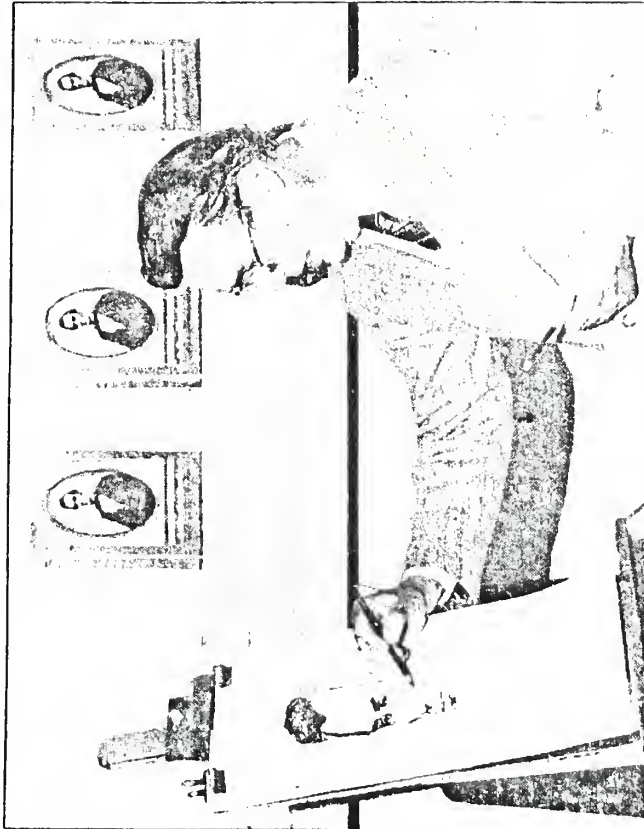


Photo by Herb Siodomnik

Lloyd Ostendorf sketches Abraham Lincoln's face.





# Noted Lincoln collector will be Lincoln Day speaker

An interesting program has been planned for the annual Lincoln Day observance Sunday honoring the birthday anniversary of our 16th president.

Featured speaker will be noted artist, author and lecturer Lloyd Ostendorf of Dayton, Ohio. He is a graduate of the Ohio Art Institute and is the holder of a doctorate degree from the Lincoln College of Illinois.

For over 50 years Ostendorf has been compiling Lincoln history and memorabilia. He is the author of several books on Abraham Lincoln and is widely known for his artwork of Lincoln. He has the largest collection of Lincoln photographs in the United States.

He has received many prestigious awards for his Lincoln research in the United States and is a fellow in the Royal Society of Arts in London.

In addition, to the featured speaker, the program will include music by the Forest Park High School chorus and ceremonies to honor Abraham Lincoln and his family, plus the annual pilgrimage to lay the wreath on Nancy Hanks Lincoln's grave. The Lafayette Springs Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution of

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## Things I Hear

by Helen Mason  
Mendenhall

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Perry County has traditionally had charge each year of this part of the program.

The public is invited to attend the program that starts at 2 p.m. CST Sunday at the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Chapel at Lincoln City.

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ED ROBERTS STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lloyd Ostendorf looks at photos of first known Lincoln portrait (left) and later copy

# Old Abe makes new appearance

## Local expert finds early portrait

By Benjamin Kline  
STAFF WRITER

After more than 50 years of studying, collecting and painting the face of Abraham Lincoln, artist Lloyd Ostendorf has a national reputation on the subject. He is used to getting calls and letters about some new Lincoln "find."

"About one out of 10 times, something of interest turns up," the 68-year-old Oakwood resident said Tuesday.

Rarely, however, do two separate leads bring Ostendorf face to face with the tall, melancholy 16th president the way they did in 1988.

In cooperative detective work, Ostendorf and James L. Swanson, a Lincoln collector from Chicago, turned up not one but two versions of what is apparently the first oil painting made of Honest Abe.

Their discovery is recounted in an article, "Lincoln from Life," in the March issue of *American Heritage* magazine.

Ostendorf's part of the trail led to Oregon, where a family notified him they had a portrait of a bearded Lincoln by a "P.O. Jenkins," dated 1866, a year after the president's assassination.

Separately, Swanson had found himself in a farmhouse in central Illinois, looking at a beardless Lincoln, painted in May 1856 by a "Dr. P.O. Jenkins."

Although he has seen only photographs of the two paintings, Ostendorf said he knew immediately that they were the same work except for the beard added to the one in Oregon.





"The party out there needed money and wanted \$25,000, but Swanson eventually bought the bearded version for \$7,000," Ostendorf said. "He now owns both of them. The thing is, we found them unbeknownst to each other."

Swanson was able to locate records of Jenkins, an itinerant painter, in Kentucky and Washington, D.C. A crucial piece of evidence was a Jenkins signature that matched the handwriting on the back of the Illinois and Oregon paintings.

Ostendorf's expertise was useful in his knowledge of the 119 separate photographs made of Lincoln — 39 beardless, 80 with the beard he grew in November 1860. Artists commonly used photographs as models, but the pose in the two paintings did not match any known photograph.

"There were only two photographs of Lincoln in 1856, and this did not match either of them," Ostendorf explained. "It's kind of a find. We thought there had been no painting before Lincoln became rather famous."

Ostendorf said he made his judgment solely on the bearded version.

"I realized it was a stylized, lifelike work," he said. "It has primitive qualities, but the guy (Jenkins) was no slouch. He saw Lincoln and did it better than most artists. This doesn't seem to resemble anything but itself. It has a lot of realism, not much prettying up."

The two scholars surmise that Jenkins, the artist, copied the 1856 portrait and added the beard, 10 years later, for a prominent Lincoln, Ill., land speculator, James

Primm, whose family possessed it ever afterward.

The Illinois family that had kept the beardless original was descended from William Henry Mann, the artist's brother-in-law.

A Lincoln watcher since he was 14 years old, Ostendorf said he sold much of his famed Lincoln collection — including five signed photographs — in 1986 to the Lincoln National Life Foundation of Fort Wayne, Ind., for "a pretty good figure."

"I had always worked for myself and had no retirement fund," he said. "They paid me so well, I picked up a couple more things since then. I'm like a magnet. People are always calling, wanting appraisals or to sell me something."

He said he and Swanson, whom he has not met in person, were careful in documenting the two paintings because they knew other Lincoln scholars could be skeptical.

"But with a Lincoln artifact, you take some of it on faith," Ostendorf said. "If things look right, you get a gut feeling."

One of the Lincoln qualities he likes, Ostendorf said, is that the president "looks different in almost every picture. Any picture of Grant, they all look the same."

Ostendorf said he doesn't purchase Lincoln paintings "because I can do my own." Could there be more material still out there someplace?

"It's unbelievable, but stuff keeps turning up," Ostendorf said. That's what is so much fun about it. I don't think that kind of memorabilia will come up on Kennedy or anybody else."



JAN UNDERWOOD/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## A sketch for Presidents Day

Students at Lincoln IGE Magnet School learned more about the building's namesake recently when local Lincoln scholar, Lloyd Ostendorf, visited the school as part of Presidents Day activi-

ties. Ostendorf talked about the life and times of Abraham Lincoln as he sketched a portrait of the nation's 16th president. The school, at 401 Nassau St., plans to display the drawing.





## NATIONAL

# Honest — town considering 305-foot statue of Lincoln

Illinois backers plan on tourist hot spot, but foes fear it's bad taste

Associated Press

LINCOLN, Ill. — Abraham Lincoln's ties to Illinois already are honored on everything from state license plates to commemorative quarters, but a small-town group is working on an even bigger tribute.

A 305-foot monument of the former U.S. president — as tall as the Statue of Liberty — has been proposed in his namesake town of 15,000 people.

That's more than 230 feet higher than Texas' tallest statue — the Dallas Zoo giraffe off Interstate 35, which is 67½ feet. That's about half a foot taller than the statue of Sam Houston off Interstate 45 near Huntsville.

In Illinois, supporters think the \$40 million Lincoln statue could ultimately anchor a massive theme park, blending historical exhibits with rides, restaurants and other attractions.

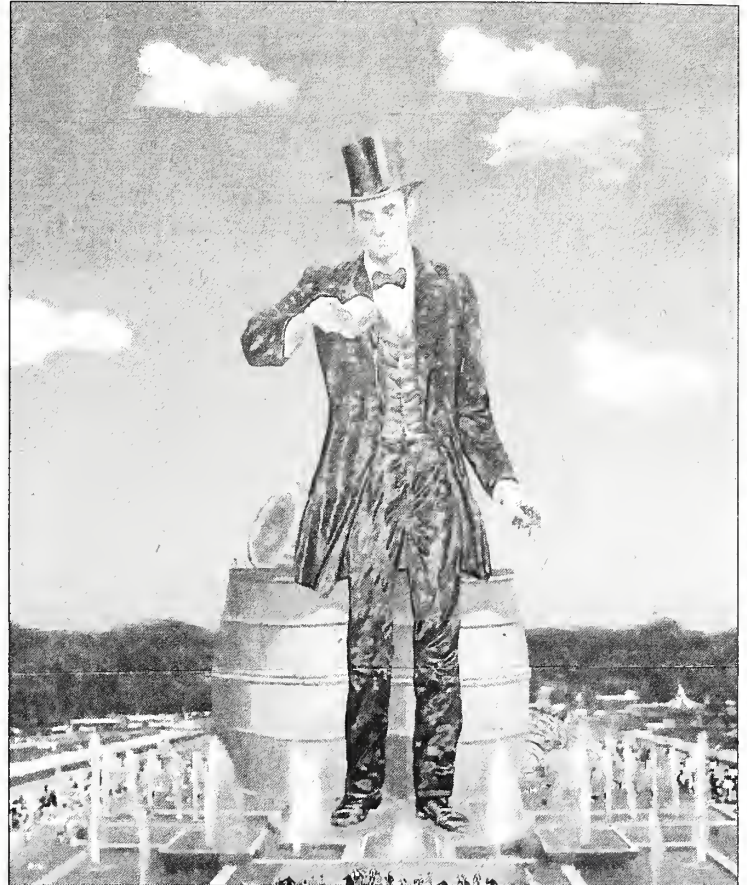
"If we get the money, I think you'll see it go, and I think you'll see it become one of the biggest tourist attractions in America," said the Rev. S.M. Davis, a Lincoln pastor who first suggested the monument.

But the idea has met skepticism in Lincoln, where some townspeople worry that the statue, which would be visible for about 20 miles, might be in bad taste. Others question whether the rural area could pull off a project so big that organizers predict it could double Lincoln's population within five years.

"Most of the people I talk to think it's a joke," said Don Loren, a downtown barber for 54 years.

But stranger things have happened in the growing amusement industry, said Art Schutte of International Theme Park Services, a Cincinnati-based firm working with Lincoln statue supporters.

"Remember Branson?" Mr. Schutte said, referring to the small



Associated Press

**A drawing shows the proposed monument of Abraham Lincoln in Lincoln, Ill. It would be visible for about 20 miles.**

Missouri town that has become a country music mecca. "You just never know."

Mr. Davis first floated the idea about 2½ years ago, and a community group was appointed to solicit the corporate donations for the project. Then the nation's economy soured and the World Trade Center towers fell, raising concerns about adding new terrorism targets, said Larry Steffens, chairman of the group.

With the economy showing signs of recovery, supporters recently renewed their sales pitch. Mr. Steffens said one company is already "very interested," and Mr. Schutte thinks several might be willing to invest in exchange for naming rights.

The steel and fiberglass statue would be patterned after a Lloyd Ostendorf painting that shows

Lincoln christening the town with watermelon juice in 1853, Mr. Steffens said.

Though organizers hope to match the height of the Statue of Liberty, Mr. Steffens said the Lincoln statue may be smaller because of air traffic and the tornadoes that threaten the area every spring.

The initial phase, which would take about two years, also would put replicas of two wooden barrels behind Lincoln — 10-story buildings that could house museums, shops and restaurants, Mr. Steffens said.

Tourism officials think the statue would be an economic boon for both Lincoln, which already has a replica of a Lincoln-era courthouse and a Lincoln College museum with \$2.2 million of memorabilia.





## Artwork to designate Lincoln sites

*By CONNIE SEASTEDT - For the Herald & Review*

LINCOLN - About 30 years ago, Lester Sheridan of the Logan County Abraham Lincoln Heritage Foundation had well-known Lincoln artist Lloyd Ostendorf draw scenes of Abraham Lincoln's life in Logan County.

Sheridan hoped the prints could be used to help promote the historical landmarks of Logan County.

Sheridan's dream has become a reality as colorized prints of Ostendorf's work will designate 25 historical sites in Lincoln, Middletown, Elkhart, Mount Pulaski and Atlanta known as the Lincoln Legacy Trail, said Paul Beaver, Looking for Lincoln chairman.

The signs, which will cost about \$900 each, will be paid for through sponsors, Beaver said.

"Now with the (Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum) in Springfield, there is a lot of activity involving Lincoln, along with his bicentennial coming up, so this is a way to publicize Logan County and make sure our part of the county is not forgotten as a place where Lincoln spent much of his time," Beaver said.

The paper illustrations from Ostendorf are being scanned into a fiberglass 16-by-24-inch frame with the help of the historical groups under the umbrella of the Logan County Lincoln group.

Beaver hopes the first sign will be up by October. The entire project is likely to take the next couple of years, with signs being put up as they are ready and sponsored.

"We know where we would like to put them, such as by the Logan County Courthouse and other historical spots," Beaver said. "I would also like to have a map placed by the courthouse that acts as a travel guide and points out where each sign is, so then people can go to a sight and say, 'This is what Lincoln did here.' "

One sign will picture Lincoln paying his taxes at a location across from the Logan County Courthouse.

"We hope these will help young people who can look and see what Lincoln did," Beaver said. "We want to get other people interested and think this is the way to do so."

Beaver hopes to expand the signs to Bloomington and Decatur and continue to promote Lincoln connections in the three locations.

"Most of the Lincoln tourists come from Chicago, and this way they could add an extra day onto their adventure," Beaver said. "With all this interest in Lincoln right now, it's time to talk and learn more about our heritage."

Connie Seastedt can be reached at [seastedtfamily@yahoo.com](mailto:seastedtfamily@yahoo.com).





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